

# INSIDES

INSPIRING HOMES WITH HEART

## *Hey big spender*

Why it's OK to splurge on your home

## **IMPRESS WITHOUT THE STRESS**

Recipes for a fun night in

## **SOFT TOUCH**

Our pick of luxe throws

## **10 TOP TIPS**

Everything you need to know before you start your dream kitchen

## *new* **classics**

Renovations that put a modern spin on original charm

**Reno Rumble** *Why rooms do – or don't – work!*




**Romy Alwill's**  
design advice



**Megan Morton's**  
style secrets



# Turn big dreams into sweet dreams



Soft pillows, a firm mattress, warm quilt and clothes folded neatly away: your dream bedroom is closer than you think. We have a range of affordable bedroom solutions to suit your wildest dreams, and from 19 June to 16 July, IKEA FAMILY members receive 20% off a mattress and mattress pad when they buy any bed frame\*. Tuck yourself into sweet dreams this winter. **[IKEA.com.au/bedrooms](http://IKEA.com.au/bedrooms)**





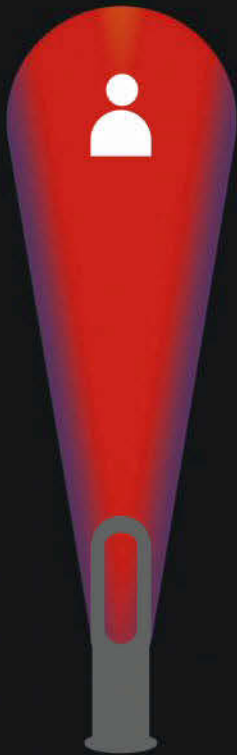
**BRUSALI**  
Queen bed frame  
with 4 storage boxes  
**\$379**



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jet focus





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## July 2015

### things we love

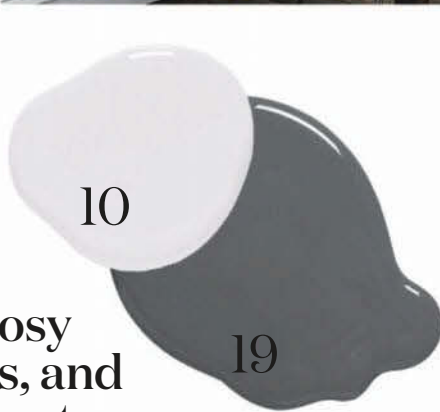
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## Etsy Design Awards

Turn to page 12 for details on this year's Etsy Design Awards, plus find out how you could win a trip to New York City with \$1000 spending money included!



## our cover look

This month's cover highlights a cool, calm and collected approach to styling for a refined open-plan living space. A muted palette features warming touches of timber and blue, with a swirl of colour from a painting found at Camberwell Sunday Market. Turn to page 10 for details.

**Photography:** Mark Roper  
**Styling:** Tamara Maynes & Carly Spooner





## Ward off the cold with fun – slash annoying – jobs at home!

**T**here's nothing like a chilly-but-beautiful weekend to motivate you to make changes around the house. Just recently I've had the overwhelming urge to finish off all those 'final details' in the home I bought late last year. From replacing the 'twigs' in my planter boxes, to hanging (and arranging) my Lightly shelves, and painting the floor in my kitchen, sometimes the small things are the hardest to tick off the list. (Note to self: remember to lock your thoroughly mischievous kittens in the bedroom next time you get out the paint roller.)

For those who know me, with tasks completed and time on my hands, it won't be long until I take on a new project (perhaps a dinner party for 40?). But I have to say, the best little and I do mean little DIY creation I've seen lately is the gorgeous dollhouse one mum made her daughter. I'm not kidding, on page 28, you'll see everything from Mark Tuckey sofas to Marimekko towels in miniature. They're completely adorable replicas that you really have to look twice at.

As you can see to the right, we've partnered with TheHome.com.au again to uncover great new styling talent! Head to our Facebook page to cast your vote for your fave cover. Want to know which one I love? I couldn't possibly say...

PS. Entries are open for the annual Etsy Design Awards, for which I'm a judge. I'd love to see what you're making. Turn to page 12 to find out how you could win a trip to New York!

*Claire*

WIN!



**WRITE IN TO WIN** You could win a Storksak + Bugaboo leather bag, valued at \$499.95. Visit bugaboo.com for more information about this sophisticated yet practical tote bag. To enter, tell us in 25 words or fewer, what are your everyday handbag essentials. **TO ENTER** Send entries (with your contact details) to *Inside Out* 'Bugaboo' competition, Locked Bag 5030, Alexandria NSW 2015 or email [insideout@newsltd.com.au](mailto:insideout@newsltd.com.au).



Follow my reno mishaps on Instagram: @clairebradley\_ed

Vote for your fave cover on Facebook! See how below



PHOTOGRAPHY: (PORTRAIT) NIGEL LOUGH; (SEARCH FOR A STYLIST) COVERS: GUY BAILEY & NIGEL LOUGH; (SEARCH FOR A STYLIST) COVERS: THE SISTERS; THE SISTERS' NET AU BUGABOO COMPETITION: TERMS AND CONDITIONS: ENTRIES OPEN 25/06/15 AT 00:01 AEST AND CLOSE 22/07/15 AT 23:59 AEST. AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER ONLY. ONE WINNER DETERMINED ON 27/07/15 AT 16:00 AEST AT NEWSLIFEMEDIA PTY LTD, LEVEL 12 HOLT STREET, SURRY HILLS, NSW 2010. WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED BY TELEPHONE AND IN WRITING. THIS IS A GAME OF SKILL AND CHANCE. PLAYS NO PART IN DETERMINING THE WINNER. TOTAL PRIZE POOL VALUED AT \$499.95. FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS AVAILABLE. VISIT [INSIDEOUT.COM.AU](http://INSIDEOUT.COM.AU) AND SEARCH FOR 'TERMS JULY ISSUE'. SEARCH FOR A STYLIST COMPETITION: VOTING OPEN TO AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS ONLY. VOTING STARTS 25/06/15 09:00 AEST AND CLOSES 22/07/15 23:59 AEST. FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS AVAILABLE. VISIT [INSIDEOUT.COM.AU](http://INSIDEOUT.COM.AU) AND SEARCH FOR 'SEARCH FOR A STYLIST'. PRIVACY POLICY IS AVAILABLE AT [NEWSCORP.AU/PRIVACY.COM](http://NEWSCORP.AU/PRIVACY.COM)



## SPECIAL COMPETITION

# search for a stylist

Our hunt for new talent is back! Along with TheHome.com.au, we've hand-picked 7 stylists – plus one wildcard! – to style a faux cover. Now, they'll go in the running to work with us and the online sale site's digital magazine. Which one will you vote for?



Georgia Harrington drew from the rug's tones to create this sophisticated look that gives the illusion of an adjoining room.



Emily O'Brien created a living space with timeless furniture pieces and charming accessories for a hit of personality.



Natalie Turnbull has gone with a vibrant mix of pattern in varying shades of blue to create a modern look that showcases form.



Nicole Langelier layered it up on her shoot, blending texture, print and pattern to create an inviting winter-ready bedroom.



Our wildcard entry Jessica Hockley used the geometric cushion as her reference for this graphic, sophisticated take on a bedroom.



Lucia.B has put together a warm, light-filled living space with a curated variety of inviting textures and soft grey and white shades.

## vote via our Facebook app!

Don't delay, cast your vote now! To see your favourite stylist win, visit our Facebook page: [facebook.com/Inside.Out.magazine.au](https://www.facebook.com/Inside.Out.magazine.au) and submit your vote via the 'Search For A Stylist' app, or visit [searchforastylist.com.au](https://searchforastylist.com.au) by July 22, 2015.

THE HOME  
[www.thehome.com.au](http://www.thehome.com.au)



HOME TREND

# get the cover look

Master a wintry yet warm feel with an assortment of natural materials and hits of blue

PRODUCT SOURCING LIANA HAKIM



COVER STYLING: TAMARA MAYNES & CARLY SPOONER. COVER PHOTOGRAPHY: MARK ROPER. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

1. 'Shiplap' **timber cladding** in Spotted Gum species, from \$130/sqm, Boral Timber. 2. Torre & Tagus 'Spike' **wall ornaments** in Silver, USD\$100/assorted set of 3, Digs. 3. Argentinian **cow hide** in Tiggerish, \$995, Art Hide. 4. 'Huxley' American oak **dining table**, \$5008, Jordan. 5. 'Clean & Protect' interior low sheen **paints** in Love Note and Winter Chic, \$55.50/4L, British Paints. 6. 'Jayden' **vase**, \$39.95/medium, Domayne. 7. 'Studio' 2.5-seat **sofa** in Arena Neptune, \$999, Freedom. 8. Massproduction 'Tio' powdercoated steel **chair** in Black, \$515, Spence & Lyda. 9. 'Rosette' **cushion** in Chambray, \$59.50, Lazybones. 10. Leather **cushion** in Tan, \$150, Mr & Mrs White. 11. 'Modern Mini' mouth-blown glass **pendant light** in Clear, USD\$100, Homary. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 148





# *New* COLLECTION

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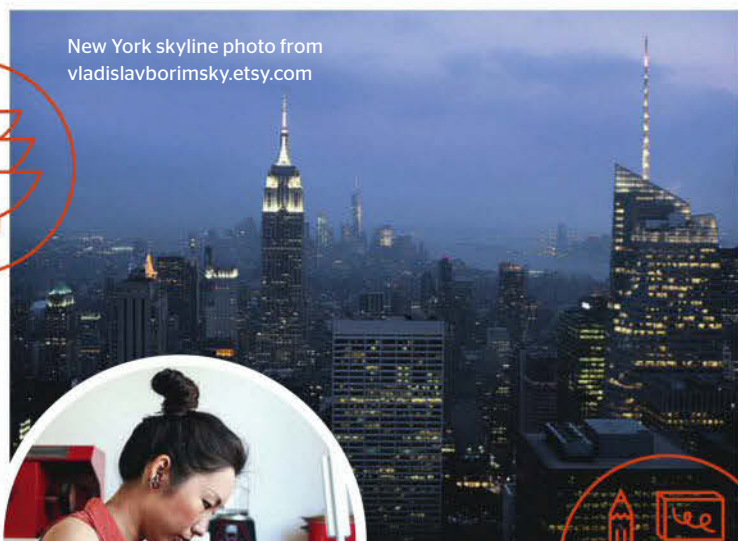
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freedom.com.au





# enter now!

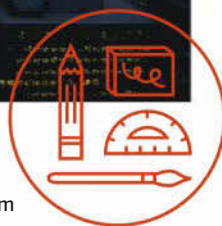
Submit your work and you could win a trip to New York with \$1000 spending money, and appear in the October edition of *Inside Out*



New York skyline photo from vladislavborimsky.etsy.com



2014 winner  
Fairina Cheng,  
fairinacheng.etsy.com



The Etsy Design Awards celebrate the people who make Etsy.com a destination for great design

Calling all Australian and New Zealand designers. Submit your work and you could win a trip to New York to visit Etsy's headquarters in Brooklyn, \$1000 spending money and be featured in the October issue of *Inside Out* magazine.

**Not yet an Etsy seller?** Open your shop now to be eligible to enter the awards. Get your Etsy shop started for free, redeem the code **ETSYDESIGN** at [etsy.com/promotions](https://etsy.com/promotions) and have 20 'free listing' credits applied to your account.

To find out more about the Design Awards, visit [etsydesignawards.com/au](https://etsydesignawards.com/au)  
Entries close July 13

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### bonus photographs

Enjoyed our story on this vibrant family home in Melbourne on page 96? See more images from this feature on our website. Styling by Rachel Vigor and photography by Derek Swalwell.

**Tweet alert**  
Heading to Japan?  
Check out the new  
[@hellosandwich](https://@hellosandwich)  
*Tokyo Guide*. Visit  
[hellosandwich.bigcartel.com](https://hellosandwich.bigcartel.com).



### pinboard inspiration

Find ideas from back issues on our Pinterest boards. Pictured is our kids' room feature from a 2011 edition. Styling by Lara Hutton and photography by Sam McAdam-Cooper.

### out and about with *Inside Out*



This bold work by @nickwalker\_art celebrates @royaldoultonau's 200th anniversary and proves its relevance.



Thanks @etsyau for the tour of @vic\_pemberton's workspace. It was great to see Vic's designs come to life.



Floral stylings by Saskia Havekes' (@grandiflora\_sydney) at the @lanternbooks dinner.



Here's a corner of our editorial coordinator @belindaeanorel's brand-new living room.

American Oak in Smoked  
Architecture by  
ROBSON RAK ARCHITECTS

It's only natural.

ROYAL OAK FLOORS

by Harper & Sandilands



CHECK US OUT

here's what you'll find  
**this month** at our  
*online home*

## how-to tool kit

See the first in  
our new series  
of how-to videos  
with builder  
Wayd Munro.

## renovation tips

No matter what stage you're at with your reno - from planning to the finishing touches - you'll find expert advice, inspiring images and hard-won wisdom from fellow renovators.

## product guides

Jump into our shop section for a gallery of the latest good-looking sofas hitting the market; plus lots more great options for retail therapy.

## rooftop gardens

Oh to have space for one of these beauties - this gallery will make you want to convert your roof.

# insideout.com.au

inspiration for your home, anywhere, anytime

stay connected...    

## expert advice

If you're short on space, our architect Andrew Benn has lots of clever tips for using furniture, lighting and more to create zones that do double duty.



head to our  
guides section for  
**8 ways**  
to store your  
magazines



## #iohideandseat

Do you love a puzzle? Just for a bit of fun, we're starting the interiors version of *Where's Wally?* with mini iconic designer chairs. Can you find the one hidden on our website? **Share a shot on Instagram, tag @insideoutmag and use the hashtag #iohideandseat to show us where you spotted it!**

PHOTOGRAPHY: (ROOFTOP GARDENS) DEREK SWALLOW, (VIDEO) NIGEL LOUGH, (EXPERT ADVICE) MARTINA GEMMOLA, STYLING: (ROOFTOP GARDENS) RACHEL VIGOR, (EXPERT ADVICE) RUTH WELSBY

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NEWSLIFEMEDIA



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**FIND OUT MORE**

**THINKEATSAVE.OZHARVEST.ORG**





# #twl

things  
we  
love

## perfectly curated

### Enlist some expert help to makeover your space

Looking for a complete room update? Melbourne-based style team Nathan + Jac take inspiration from a particular theme to create a style package. Choose from a selection of full-room looks or individual accessories, whether you're after homewares, cushions and artworks. In this snapshot, the reindeer skin throw, an artwork by Kevin Russ, fig-scented candle, plush cushions and the lamp are all up for grabs online. For a cosy new room delivered to your door, take a look. 'Winter Wonderland' accessory collection, \$2340, Nathan + Jac, [nathanjac.com.au](http://nathanjac.com.au).





A modern interior scene with a white vaulted ceiling and a large skylight. In the background, a black wicker chair with a black and white geometric patterned cushion sits next to a small, light-colored wooden side table holding a potted plant. In the foreground, a round table with a bold black and white abstract pattern holds a white ceramic teapot with a wooden handle, a white ceramic pitcher with a black polka-dot pattern, a white ceramic cup on a saucer, and a stack of white plates.

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PHOTOGRAPH BY MAIN FILIPPO BAMBERG ARCHITECT: FELIPE HESS, FELIPEHES.COM. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



*After Hours Palette 2*  
**artwork** by Stephen Baker,  
\$2250 (framed), Modern  
Times, moderntimes.com.au.

Gubi 'Semi' **pendant light**, \$913, Cult,  
cultdesign.com.au.

'Clean & Protect' low  
sheen acrylic **paints**  
in Maritime Charcoal,  
\$59.90/4L, and Pick  
Me Up, \$55.50/4L,  
British Paints,  
britishpaints.com.au.

Herman Miller  
'DCM' moulded  
plywood **dining chair**  
by Charles  
and Ray Eames,  
\$1244, Living Edge,  
livingedge.com.au.

'Mosque' **tiles** in Blue  
and White, \$11 each,  
Perini Tiles, perini.com.au.

'Bjursta' extendable  
**dining table**, \$199,  
IKEA, ikea.com.au.

'The Townhouse'  
**shelves**, USD\$850,  
and 'Go-Storage'  
**box**, USD\$395,  
Go-Shelves,  
go-shelves.com.

**STYLE MASH-UP**

# mid-century meets industrial

How do you mix two separate design  
styles? Like this! Team raw textures  
with shots of bright colour

PRODUCT SOURCING **LIANA HAKIM**

Herman Miller 'RAR' **rockers**  
by Charles and Ray Eames,  
\$1123, Living Edge, as before.

'Nesso' **table lamp**, \$527,  
Artemide, artemide.com.au.

B&B Italia 'UP1' **armchair**,  
\$2595, Space Furniture,  
spacefurniture.com.au.

'Concrete Wall No.3'  
**wallpaper**, €111/sqm,  
Tom Haga, tomhaga.com.



# what's on our radar

Discover each month what's hot, what's on its way out and what designs continue to endure and inspire



## TRENDING

### What's in ... simple geometry

Understated shapes are getting lots of attention, especially with elegant designs such as Douglas And Bec's 'Line' collection, \$1325 for the floor lamp, from [douglasandbec.com](http://douglasandbec.com).




### On its way out Pantone swatches

We love colour, too, but does the world really need Pantone branding on everything from pepper grinders to high heels?



## CULT CLASSIC 'FAKTA' CABINET BY YNGVE EKSTRÖM

**The form:** A square storage unit with an open front that can be wall-mounted or placed on the floor. **What makes it special:** The design of the 'Fakta' cabinet is pure genius. It took shape in 1958, two years after Ekström's signature 'Lamino' chair (see page 110) hit the market. Groups of the 70cm-square 'Faktas' can be oriented in four ways and stacked or placed side by side, yet the internal dividers and drawers always line up perfectly for a geometric look reminiscent of Piet Mondrian's work. Manufactured only in oak, the cabinet combines an organic look with a delightfully graphic composition. Optional drawers for four of the open bays are also available. Ekström was also the founder of Swedish furniture firm Swedese in 1945, and remained the company's leader until his death in 1988. **Expect to pay:** \$2310 (drawers additional). **Buy at:** Fred International, [fredishere.com.au](http://fredishere.com.au).

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away enough  
umbrellas each  
year to produce  
**25x**   
Eiffel Towers'  
worth of waste.

See more on Ginkgo's recyclable umbrella design at [ginkgoumbrella.com](http://ginkgoumbrella.com).



## THE COOLEST THING WE'VE SEEN LATELY

Muji's designs might be understated, but our team's enthusiasm for the Japanese brand is anything but! The good-looking and great-value selection of homewares caught the eye of our managing editor Lee Tran Lam at the launch of the new Sydney showroom. Visit [muji.com/au](http://muji.com/au) for more info.



The Decor + Design show is on from 16-19 July, in Melbourne, [decordesignshow.com.au](http://decordesignshow.com.au).



# MODULAR FLEXIBILITY

## COMPANION PRODUCT RANGE

Whether it's a fresh coffee in the morning, a healthy steamed lunch or a quick ready-made meal in the evening, the Fisher & Paykel companion product range takes convenience to a new level. Each product is based on standard dimensions and can be easily configured to suit your preference — whether it is stacked vertically, placed side by side in a linear fashion or configured in a Two x Two Block.



*Fisher & Paykel*





**What's your favourite part about working together?** Creative collaboration. When you're on your own, it's easy to question if your work is good enough, or if an idea is worth exploring. Having someone else to offer their opinion is wonderful. We also have the funniest Skype conversations!

**When did you first meet each other?** We had crossed paths online via our respective blogs (Rebecca ran Wee Birdy and Lisa produced The Red Thread), but we finally met at a lunch for our mutual friend who was visiting from New York a few years ago.



**Where do you update your blog?** Rebecca has a dedicated studio space at home in her Sydney 'Treehouse', but when she needs to power through blog posts she likes to work in local libraries and cafes. Lisa has a workspace set up in a sunny corner of her inner-Sydney apartment. She's restricted to working from home as she's often editing photos or designing printables on her iMac.

## BLOGGER PROFILE

# we are scout

**THE STATS** **What:** We Are Scout **Who:** Lisa Tilse and Rebecca Lowrey Boyd **Where:** we-are-scout.com

**Started:** 2015 **You'll find:** A blog that's about hunting, gathering and making. "We offer design, craft, interiors, travel, shopping, fashion and beauty, with a distinctly Australian voice and focus," says Lisa (pictured, left).



### What's the hardest thing you do for the blog?

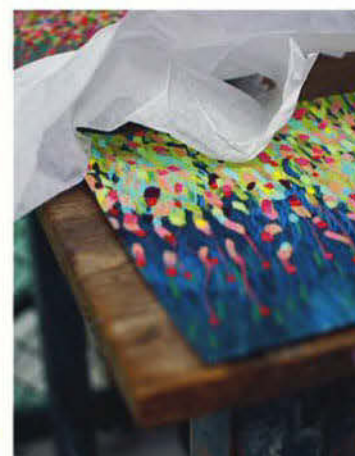
Turning our homes upside down for shoots. It's crazy things don't get back to normal for weeks. We set really high production standards for ourselves, but it's not like we have a team of assistants, photographers and stylists to help us. Also, it's tricky being busy mums and splitting what's essentially a full-time job between childcare, school runs and school holidays although it's always been like that for both of us. So, there is a lot of work after hours and on weekends.

### What kickstarted the idea for We Are Scout?

Lisa created an e-mag called *Scout* back in 2013, and Rebecca did a little editorial work on it. The seed was planted and we flirted with the idea of working together. But it wasn't until Rebecca was made redundant from her part-time editing job that we really gave it some serious thought. Basically, Lisa kept nudging Rebecca until she gave in. We always thought that we'd make the perfect team, and we do.

### What are you planning for next?

We're already planning our Christmas edition of *Scout* e-mag. We'd love to work on a homewares range one day, and run some craft and design events.



PHOTOGRAPHY: LISA TILSE FOR WE ARE SCOUT



For a list of some of our favourite blogs, visit our Pinterest page at [pinterest.com/insideoutpins](https://pinterest.com/insideoutpins).





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3 OF A KIND

# stools

We take a closer look at fresh new takes on familiar forms. First up, the humble stool

WORDS LEE TRAN LAM



## 'Splinter' stool

**DESIGNER:** Caren Ellis

This Adelaide designer's work proves that a splinter doesn't have to be an annoying thing. It took two years for her to get her colour-dipped timber-and-metal stool ready for its debut at Workshopped 2014 and she started taking her first orders at the recent Den fair in Melbourne. With this chair, she wanted to create the illusion that two stools had been sliced through the middle and formed together. Resolving issues such as perfecting the right angles for the stool led to moments of victory and the feeling she could conquer the next stage in the process. "This design was a challenge, but a very enjoyable challenge," she says. \$625; visit [carenellis.com](http://carenellis.com).



## 'No. 14 - Giant Colourful Pom-Pom' stool

**DESIGNER:** Rachel Vosila of Nauti Studios

"I'm currently working on a @one.a.week Instagram project, where I'm designing and making a chair a week for the entirety of 2015," says Rachel. After coming across pom-poms from her school days, this Sydney designer hit upon the idea of making a large-scale version as a chair. "I didn't realise how long it'd take to make the giant pom-pom, and just how much wool was needed," she says. "It was two days of wrapping wool around the form, and about 25 balls of yarn." The original stool was given to a friend and a recent version appeared at Sydney gallery He Made She Made. Rachel hopes to end the year with a show of 52 completed chairs. \$200; visit [nautistudiosmarket.etsy.com](http://nautistudiosmarket.etsy.com).



## 'Alfy' stool/side table

**DESIGNER:** Kristen Leong and Josh Henderson of Tiny Kiosk

'Alfy' has had an interesting life and made cameos in unexpected places it's even landed a stay in a hotel, as part of the Etsy At The Cullen installation. These designs are by Kristen Leong and Josh Henderson, who work together in a studio in Sydney's Rozelle (prior to that, the pair had studied architecture at the University Of Sydney). The striking cork-and-aluminium look is, in a way, an accident. "The initial prototypes were made from sanding blocks from the hardware store, as larger blocks aren't available in Australia. We found that the agglomerated cork allowed finer detail than we initially expected." The simple design is easy to assemble you just push the striking blue paperclip-like legs into the Portuguese cork, and you're done. \$190; visit [tinykiosk.etsy.com](http://tinykiosk.etsy.com).



*Like a log.  
Like a baby.  
Like a  
Forty Winks  
customer.*

Wake Up Wonderful

Forty  
Winks



# ask an expert

Each issue, we'll find stylish solutions to all your decorating and design dilemmas from those in the know



**Lisa Koehler** is the interior stylist on our renovation specialists panel (for more on the panel, turn to page 112). Here, she tackles the best way to go about mixing and matching timber tones.

**Q** *I'd love tips on how best to mix wood floors with wood furniture such as dining tables. @theurbanhunter\_nz via Instagram*

One of the keys to good styling is a balance

of colour, texture and finishes – so it's really important to align your mix of timber colours and treatments, so they work harmoniously together. One option is to keep it all tonal – look at the undertone of the timber floor to see if your floor has a warm or cool base colour, and then continue to match it in varied light to dark shades. Personally, I only like working with three different timber looks – any more than that and it can start to feel disconnected and chaotic. Alternatively, you could contrast your timbers. For example, combine a beautiful rich chocolate timber floor: try 'Architect' American oak timber flooring in Chocolate, from \$93.50/sqm, [royaloakfloors.com.au](http://royaloakfloors.com.au), with a whitewashed timber dining table: check out one of the options in Chalk from MCM House (above right), from \$2800 each, [mcmhouse.com](http://mcmhouse.com).

**Q** *I'd love suggestions on how to make curtains a cool feature instead of a daggy or plain necessity. @jennieraccoon via Instagram*

"As the days get shorter, darker and colder, curtains can change up and brighten a room without you even having to pick up a paintbrush," says **Jane Anthony, textiles expert at IKEA**. "Multiple layered curtains allow you to make a bold and fun statement while keeping all the elements out – and your electricity bill down! Place a sheer layer close to the window to welcome in warmth and light, while adding a stronger second layer will guard against curious eyes and cold air." The 'Räcka/Hugad' double-curtain rod combination

(\$33.99, [ikea.com.au](http://ikea.com.au)) is an easy way to create a layered solution, she suggests. You can also hang curtains in the middle of a room to stylishly frame a space; create hideaway storage spaces using the 'Stockholm' fabric (\$9.99/metre, [ikea.com.au](http://ikea.com.au)) or create a fun kids' play area with the 'Önskedröm' range (from \$7.99/metre, [ikea.com.au](http://ikea.com.au)).



**designer tip**  
Use a monochrome palette as inspiration if you're hesitant about mixing timber tones

**Q** *Should I spray, render or bag my home's exterior bricks? I don't want it to date quickly.*

*@moore\_creative via Instagram*

"One of the many benefits of bricks is that they don't require ongoing maintenance. They have enduring colour and won't deteriorate over time. Once you start rendering, bagging or spraying bricks, you need to be prepared to repeat this process regularly in years to come," says **Michelle Gissel, general manager of marketing & strategy, PGH Bricks & Pavers** ([pghbricks.com.au](http://pghbricks.com.au)). "This is because this type of finish will weather over time, with a tendency to fade, crack or stain."

**Q** *I like the grey walls I see in your mag, but I don't know which one to go for in my home. I can't decide between dark or light. Is there one that suits any space? Rebecca Brown, via email*

"Grey is a popular colour choice because there's always a tint, tone or shade that will work with every colour," says **Rebecca Sacher, senior brand manager, British Paints** ([britishpaints.com.au](http://britishpaints.com.au)). "The darker grey tones create the same mood as black and, depending on the intensity you're after, can add drama to any room. Medium greys feel dignified, subtle and more conservative, so they work well as a neutral backdrop. There are lighter greys that are closer to silver and almost white. They appear more soft, subtle and quite cool. Our most popular greys are Rhino Grey, Ace Of Spades and Silver Treasure."



Send us your questions – email [insideout@news1td.com.au](mailto:insideout@news1td.com.au) or via Facebook and Twitter.

## PERFECT FOR THE PICKING



Preserve your wine at its finest. A precious collection deserves the perfect temperature; optimum moisture control through ventilation; protection from light with UV tempered doors; and a perfect place to rest on oak shelves with a low vibration compressor. So when you enjoy your next glass of wine, you'll taste it at its best.

*Fisher & Paykel*

Model shown RF356RDWX1





## DESIGN PROFILE

# Linzi Macdonald

This designer has created the ultimate dollhouse, kitted out with her

**You've been renovating your two-year-old daughter Maddie's dollhouse - and it looks amazing! In fact, people have been following your progress on Instagram via the #maddiesdollhousereno hashtag. How did this all start?**

We realised that Maddie didn't have anything that was really hers - everything came from hand-me-downs from her three-year-old brother, Will. So, my hubby James found her a dollhouse on eBay. My Instagram friend was currently renovating one for her boy, so I thought it'd be a fun experience, too.

**What inspired you to treat this like a real-life reno?** I love a challenge, so I thought it'd be funny to create miniature items that we have in our home. Then it spiralled out of control - in a good way of course!

**How do you go about making mini versions of real-life objects by Armadillo&Co. and other brands?** I was sitting at my desk one day staring at a ball of twine, when I got the idea for making the Armadillo&Co. 'Daisy' rug in miniature. Not thinking it was going to actually work, I gave it a whirl. I glued the back of the twine, while I wove it around and around to create the rug's pattern. It took a whole morning, but I was so happy with the result! My fingers hated me for it, though.

All of the wooden furniture was made with the help of my husband. He did all the cutting, and I finished them off. I think he thought I was a little bonkers when I told him I wanted to replicate a Mark Tuckey table.

**It must be tough working on such a small scale - have you run into any difficulties?** The trickiest part was painting the exterior.

It was such a horrid and tedious job. So don't look too closely at those window frames! And putting up the Quercus & Co. wallpaper against the staircase. No matter how much I wiggled, those stairs weren't moving. So I had to cut each step out of the wallpaper one at a time.

**What's in your toolkit for making these items?** Fabric glue - it bonds so fast without making a terrible mess like a hot-glue gun! White spray paint - there was no way I was hand-painting that staircase! Plus, my trusty fine-point Sharpie pen and a few test pots.

**What's been your favourite item to work on?** The Mark-Tuckey-inspired table and the old spanner my dad gave me, hanging above the table. We rummaged through his collection to find that perfect one!

**Have you had responses from any brands that have inspired your work?** Both Mark Tuckey and Armadillo&Co. have left lovely comments on Instagram. Casey from Uashmama in Bondi sent pieces of their



The Armadillo&Co 'Daisy' rug in miniature form.



A dot-patterned Marimekko mug sits on the Mark Tuckey table in the kitchen.



This decal is by artist Beastman and its lines contrast with an Armadillo&Co rug.



A Rachel Castle artwork gives big impact, even on a tiny scale.



Linzi's kids Maddie and Will playing with the dollhouse.



## mini versions of local pieces WORDS LEE TRAN LAM PHOTOGRAPHY SAM McADAM-COOPER

gorgeous paper, so all of the bags in the house are actually real Uashmama bags. I ended up going into the store to meet her, because she was just so lovely!

**Can you talk about the other people who have contributed to the dollhouse?** I've had so many lovely people on Instagram send me items or offcuts: Felt Foxes made me the tiny garlands. G. Nancy and Oli Holmes sent me fabric and the small bear print. DyeNumber2 crocheted the incredibly tiny and amazing blanket for the lounge. Zilvi made the numbers on the front of the house. Tellkiddo sent me the cute paper bags in the boy's room and Cassie Loizeaux sent me a bunch of illustrations she created for it.

**"I love a challenge... then it spiralled out of control – in a good way of course!"**

**How big is the actual dollhouse - and what do visitors think when they see it?** The house is huge! It sits at 80cm high by 80cm long by

40cm deep. It takes two people to carry it, so it won't be moved around a lot! When anyone comes over, the first thing that comes out of their mouth is "now, where's that dollhouse?", followed by "ooohhhh" and "how?!" The kids' room is such a big playful space, so the house just fits in perfectly.

**What does Maddie think of the dollhouse?** She loves it, especially pushing all her animals through the side door! I think the kitchen is loved the most by both kids, though. With the opening and closing of the fridge, making Mummy cups of coffee – it gets a real thrashing, that room. I usually sit back and watch them play, and pray they don't destroy it all in one go!

**What do you get up to, when not working on this project?**

My husband works on the ferries in Sydney Harbour and I work from home, making toddler teepees ([littlelinzi.bigcartel.com](http://littlelinzi.bigcartel.com)).

**What other plans do you have for the renovation? Will it ever be finished?** I think it's done – unless I come across another amazing designer, then I may just have to sneak in another piece. It has been such a fun journey, so who knows, maybe I'll create another?!

*For more info, follow Linzi on Instagram at @little.linzi.*





## COLOUR TREND

# plum & grey

Bring a touch of elegant drama to your home by pairing deep plum and cool concrete grey

STYLING JESSICA HANSON

1. Normann Copenhagen 'Ekko' **throw** in Smoke, \$250, BYMR, bymr.com.au.
2. Maiori 'Mica' **side chair**, \$365, Obodo, obodo.com.au. 3. Mark Tuckey 'Circus Tassel' **blanket**, \$139.95, Cotton On, cottonon.com.
4. 'Line O2' **pendant light**, \$1930, Douglas And Bec, douglasandbec.com.
5. *Plum Half Moon artwork*, from \$700 (framed), The Artwork Stylist, theartworkstylist.com.au. 6. Karakter **vases**, from \$340 each, Spence & Lyda, spenceandlyda.com.au. 7. 'Flower' **servers** in Warm Swirl, \$100, Dinosaur Designs, dinosaurdesigns.com.
8. 'Interior Endure' low sheen acrylic **paint** in Plum Ruffle, \$45.90/1L, Taubmans, taubmans.com.au.
9. 'Clean & Protect' low sheen **paint** in Knowledge, \$55.50/4L, British Paints, britishpaints.com.au. 10. 'Scatter' **cushion** in Solid Grey, \$75, Weylandts, weylandts.com.au. 11. 'M15' two-seater **sofa** in Mulberry, \$3250, Pierre & Charlotte, pierreandcharlotte.com.



"This refined combination suits everything from throws to tableware"

JESSICA HANSON, STYLE EDITOR







# *The* **All-terrain Stroller**

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TOP 10 PICKS

## plywood

This versatile timber offers an array of options with its smooth finish and flexible form

STYLING JESSICA HANSON

1. Villa 'Orion' pendant light, \$990, Plyroom, [plyroom.com.au](http://plyroom.com.au). 2. 'Big Circle' wall hook, \$20, and 'Little Circle' wall hook, \$18, The Hook Co., [thehookco.com.au](http://thehookco.com.au). 3. Go Home 'Tulipa' stool, \$771, Stylecraft, [stylecraft.com.au](http://stylecraft.com.au).
4. Margaret Howell 'Concentric' trays, from NZ\$49 each, Everyday Needs, [everyday-needs.com](http://everyday-needs.com). 5. 'Thomson' clock, \$120, Ten Things, [tenthings.com.au](http://tenthings.com.au).
6. Branca 'Laco' sideboard, \$4295, Domo, [domo.com.au](http://domo.com.au). 7. 'Plywood' cushion, \$99, How Are You, [howareyou.se](http://howareyou.se). 8. H&G Designs leather strap and plywood hanging bedside shelf, \$185, Norsu Interiors, [norsu.com.au](http://norsu.com.au).
9. Ferm Living 'Round Dorm' shelf, \$349, Designstuff, [designstuff.com.au](http://designstuff.com.au).
10. 'Floating' dining table, from NZ\$2550, and bench seat, NZ\$1089, Tim Webber Design, [timwebberdesign.com](http://timwebberdesign.com).



"The modern simplicity of plywood makes it ideal for a variety of uses"

JESSICA HANSON, STYLE EDITOR



# cook up a storm

*There's so much more to make with the extensive KitchenAid® family. Introducing the newest member – the Cook Processor. It makes delicious cuisine with the touch of a button, like this fabulously hearty seafood stew. Enjoy!*







KitchenAid® Stand Mixer with the Artisan Food Chopper

## Italian seafood stew with gremolata

½ cup flat-leaf parsley leaves  
Finely grated zest of 1 lemon  
4 garlic cloves  
1 onion  
2 celery stalks, chopped  
1 baby fennel, chopped  
¼ cup (60ml) olive oil  
¼ tsp chilli flakes  
¼ cup (60ml) white wine  
2 cups (500ml) fish stock  
1 jar Saclà Cherry Tomato & Basil pasta sauce  
250g skinless salmon fillet, pin-boned, roughly chopped  
250g skinless firm white fish, pin-boned, chopped  
250g green prawns, peeled, deveined  
12 mussels, debearded, cleaned  
Toasted bread, to serve

To make the gremolata, insert the Mini-Bowl and MiniBlade attachment into the KitchenAid® Cook Processor and combine the parsley, zest and half

the garlic in the bowl. Pulse for 10-15 seconds or until finely chopped. Set aside until ready to serve. Remove Mini-Bowl and MiniBlade from the machine.

Insert MultiBlade attachment into machine and add onion, celery, fennel and remaining 2 garlic cloves. Pulse for 15-20 seconds, scraping down sides with a spatula half way through, until chopped. Replace the MultiBlade with StirAssist attachment. Add olive oil and chilli, close lid and press Stew P3. After 2 ½ minutes, press Pause and scrape down sides. Resume program for 2 ½ minutes then press cancel. Open lid and add wine, stock and pasta sauce. Season. Close lid and remove Measuring Cup. Press Stew P3.

When program is finished, press cancel to exit the Keep Warm Mode. Open lid and remove the StirAssist attachment. Add salmon, white fish, prawns and mussels, close lid and replace Measuring Cup. Set to 120°C for 3 minutes then press start.

When finished, ladle stew into serving bowls, garnish with gremolata and serve with toasted bread. Serves 4-6

## ricotta ravioli with lemon butter sauce

2 cups (300g) 00 flour, plus extra to dust  
3 eggs, plus 2 extra egg yolks  
2 tbs olive oil  
500g ricotta  
Zest of 2 lemons  
¾ cup (60g) grated parmesan, plus extra to serve  
Semolina flour, to dust  
150g butter  
Juice of 1 lemon  
2 bunches of baby asparagus, trimmed, cut into 1/3

Place the flour in the bowl of the KitchenAid® Stand Mixer fitted with the Dough Hook. Add 3 eggs, 1 tsp salt and the olive oil. Knead on speed 2 for 6 minutes or until dough is smooth (add another tablespoon of oil if mixture is too dry). Place on a floured work bench and knead by hand for 1-2 minutes, wrap in plastic wrap and place in the fridge for 30 minutes to rest.

Combine ricotta, ½ the lemon zest, parmesan, and season with cracked black pepper. Set aside.

Remove the dough from the fridge and divide into four pieces. Keep one piece out and cover the remaining 3 with plastic wrap to prevent them from drying out. Flatten the first piece gently with your hand and dust with a little flour. Roll the pasta through the machine starting on the largest setting and continuing through each setting until you reach setting 6. Lay the sheets on a floured bench and cut in half. Place ½ tablespoon mounds of ricotta mixture along the pasta sheet with a 5cm space in between. Beat egg yolks and brush around each mound of ricotta. Lay the other sheet of pasta over the top and press around each mound to seal the edges. Gently press out any excess air. Use a 6cm ravioli cutter to cut out the ravioli. Place on baking trays dusted with semolina and cover with a tea towel while you make the rest of the ravioli.

To make the sauce, melt the butter in a deep frying pan over a medium heat until bubbling. Add the remaining zest, lemon juice and asparagus. Cook for 1-2 minutes until asparagus is tender. Season, cover and set aside.

Bring a large pot of salted water to the boil over a high heat. Cook the pasta in the boiling water for 2-3 minutes until they rise to the top. Remove with a slotted spoon and shake off any excess water. Add to the butter sauce and toss to combine. Divide among serving plates and top with extra grated parmesan. Serves 6



*Whatever recipe you're  
cooking, there's a KitchenAid®  
appliance to match.*

### chocolate mousse cake with red wine-poached pears

4 Beurre Bosc pears  
2 cups (500ml) red wine  
350g caster sugar  
2 star anise  
2 cinnamon quills  
1 vanilla pod, split, seeds scraped  
400g dark chocolate (at least 80%),  
roughly chopped  
4 eggs  
600ml thickened cream  
1 cup (250ml) strong espresso coffee  
100ml dark rum  
16 Savoiardi biscuits  
2 tbs cocoa powder, to serve

To make poached pears, peel, halve and core pears. Place wine, 100g sugar, star anise, cinnamon and vanilla in a KitchenAid® Tri-Ply Stainless Steel saucepan. Stir for 1-2 minutes over a low heat until sugar dissolves. Add pears and just cover with water. Simmer for 15-20 minutes until pears are tender. Remove pears with a slotted spoon and return the saucepan to the heat and simmer for 5-6 minutes until liquid is reduced and syrupy. Pour over pears, cool, then set aside.

Place the chocolate in a heatproof bowl. Half fill a KitchenAid® Tri-Ply Stainless Steel saucepan with water and bring to a simmer over a medium heat. Place the bowl over simmering water, making sure the water doesn't touch the bottom, and melt the chocolate. Set aside to cool.

Place eggs in a bowl and add 150g sugar. Use the KitchenAid® Hand Mixer, fitted with the Beater attachments, and beat on a med-high setting for 3 minutes until pale and slightly thickened. Gently stir in the chocolate mixture until combined. Place cream in a clean bowl, and beat using the KitchenAid® Hand Blender with Whisk attachment, until stiff peaks form. Fold in whipped cream to the chocolate mixture.

Using the KitchenAid® Espresso Machine make one cup of coffee. Stir in 100g of sugar,



KitchenAid® KHM926 Hand Mixer with KHB2569 Hand Blender

then add the rum, set aside.

Line base and sides of a 23cm spring form cake tin with baking paper. Dip 8 of the biscuits, 1 at a time, in the coffee mixture to line the base of the tin. Cut some of the biscuits to make sure the base is fully covered. Spread chocolate

mixture over biscuits. Dip remaining biscuits in coffee mixture and place over the chocolate, cutting so they cover completely. Place in freezer for a minimum of 4 hours, then place in the fridge for 1 hour. Dust with cocoa, slice and serve with half a poached pear and some syrup.

## the kitchen wonder machine

Take the hard work out of cooking with the amazing new KitchenAid® Cook Processor. This multi-functioning machine can process entire dishes with the touch of a button. From boiling, frying, steaming, stewing and making dough, to chopping, mincing, pureeing, mixing, emulsifying, whipping and stirring, this machine can do it all. It features six automatic cooking modes that guide

you step-by-step through recipes for delicious dishes, and you can also opt for manual mode to experiment on your own.

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1

### **'Cyborg' by Magis**

The first time I saw Marcel Wanders' 'Cyborg' chair, it was all sleek and sci-fi. Now there's a new version at Magis with a rattan back. Rattan (the week's second most popular material of choice) was everywhere in Milan this year, but this chair pushed the colonial look to the limits. [magisdesign.com](http://magisdesign.com).



3

### **'Melt' by Tom Dixon**

'Hallucinogenic' and 'globular' are just two of the adjectives used to describe Tom Dixon's striking new 'Melt' pendant lights. They are made from metallised blown glass and are designed in collaboration with Swedish design collective Front. [tomdixon.net](http://tomdixon.net).

4

### **Scholten & Baijings at Herman Miller**

If meeting Dutch design duo Scholten & Baijings was a delight, then their 'Block' sofa, a reworked Ward Bennett design, was the icing on the cake. Upholstered in Maharam fabrics, the reimagined Herman Miller range was called 'Lines, Grids & Blocks'. [hermanmiller.com](http://hermanmiller.com).



# Milan report

*The Block* judge and regular contributor Neale Whitaker gives us his on-the-ground report from the world's biggest furniture fair

2

### **'Globe' light by Lee Broom**

British designer Lee Broom, creator of the cut-glass pendants, wowed Milan with his brilliantly retro, tongue-in-cheek Department Store. Think Milan meets *Are You Being Served?* It was the backdrop for outstanding designs, amongst them the marble 'Globe' light. And marble was the material of choice - everywhere. [leebroom.com](http://leebroom.com).



5

### **'Dew' by Moroso**

Like many design companies, Moroso released new versions of existing pieces. Nendo's brilliant 'Dew' is definitely worth revisiting, and I love that it's described as a 'pouffe'. I haven't heard that word since my childhood. This pouffe is like a perfectly polished leather pebble. [moroso.it](http://moroso.it).







6

### 'Cloud XL' by Apparatus

The team behind New-York based lighting firm Apparatus fitted out an old shop in Milan's 5Vie district. The contrast of the ethereal-meets-industrial light fittings against the aged walls and floors was one of the week's standouts. The hand-frosted glass orbs of the dreamy 'Cloud XL' chandelier made my heart beat a little faster. [apparatusstudio.com](http://apparatusstudio.com).



7

### 'Mutation' by Cappellini Next

Belgian designer Maarten De Ceulaer first released his intriguing 'Mutation' series at Milan's Spazio Rossana Orlandi - a laboratory for young designers - several years ago, but now his designs have been manufactured in foam by Cappellini. Whether you choose to view them as mutating cells or (as has been said) a reworking of the traditional button-back sofa, you can't ignore them. [cappellini.it](http://cappellini.it).



8

### Kartell goes Sottsass

Kartell paid tribute to the influential '80s Memphis movement with their Sottsass range, designed by the legendary Ettore Sottsass in 2004, but never previously released. These stools and vases capture the era's vibrant palette. [kartell.com](http://kartell.com).



9

### 'Crystal Ball' at Cappellini

Inspired by the magic bubbles we all played with as children, these 'Crystal Balls' designed by Matteo Zorzenoni are part vase, part sculpture. The wooden base is ash and the bowl is made from Pyrex. [cappellini.it](http://cappellini.it).

10

### 'Drunken' table by Lee Broom

Still at Lee Broom's Department Store, the clever 'Drunken' side table (shown) and table lamp also echoed the 1980s Memphis mood. Simultaneously crazy, clever and glamorous, it's the Grace Jones of furniture. [leebroom.com](http://leebroom.com).





## BUDGET BREAKDOWN

# winter living

Here, we take you through all the elements you need to create pared-back elegance in your living space

WORDS LYNNE TESTONI PHOTOGRAPHY DEREK SWALWELL STYLING RACHEL VIGOR

**1/ Sliding glass doors** Architect Jamie Sormann of Foong + Soorman (foomann.com.au) sourced these custom-built glass doors to integrate the indoors and outdoors. "It's a very light, open and connected house with character that reflects the time of day and weather," he says. **Powder-coated custom aluminium frames by Select Windows (selectwindowspl.com.au), through ProvanBuilt (provanbuilt.com.au). Expect to pay about \$35,000, plus installation.**

**2/ Lounge chairs** Using leather pieces of furniture adds a modern (and still practical) feel to living spaces while gleaming chrome elements, seen in the chairs' legs, can provide a bright contrast to the texture of the concrete and glass surrounds. **Billiani 'Pop' lounge chairs in leather from Hub Furniture, \$620 each, (02) 9217 0700, hubfurniture.com.au.**

**3/ Rendered wall** The subtle texture of rendering can provide a soft backdrop to rooms, allowing the outside light to diffuse against bright whites of ceilings and other walls. Remember: rendering is a specialist skill and should be applied by a qualified tradesperson, probably not a DIY option. **For a similar look, consider Unitex Veneto Mineral Coloured Finish, \$35.92/15L for a pail containing 20kg dry powder (Melbourne price only), contact unitex.com.au for regional details.**

**4/ Gas fireplace** An open-fronted fire is a cleaner way of providing instant heating, along with the ambience and romance of an open hearth. This one is Australian made and has a double-insulated firebox and a two-speed fan. **'Heatseeker 850' gas fireplace with black pebble tray and three-side black trim, \$4855, including a 3.6m flue kit and cowl, from Real Flame, realflame.com.au.**

**5/ Artwork** A spectacular piece such as this painting, *Convergence*, by Martine Emdur sets the tone for the room. Martine's paintings are highly sought-after; her work has been described by art writer Anna Johnson as "highly sense-based, it can make you shiver or melt or feel a very human vulnerability". **Martine is represented by Olsen Irwin, and prices for her work can range from \$6600 for a 51 x 51cm oil-on-linen work to \$80,000 for a 170 x 300cm work, olsenirwin.com.**

**6/ Sofa** Given that a sofa is often a feature furniture piece in a living space, choose shades in soft furnishings to work with hard surfaces such as feature walls. **The 'Empire' sofa by Jordan, starting from \$4769. Visit jordan.com.au for more.**

**7/ Coffee table** Modern Australian design is not just for the walls. A beautifully made coffee table can set the scene for other furniture in the room. **The 'Jade' coffee table by Zuster, \$3150/1200mm diameter, is made from solid American oak. Visit zuster.com.au.**

**8/ Turkish rugs** Look for vintage pieces to add a sense of history. The deep tones of this handmade rug from Loom also provide an anchor point for the space as a whole. **Each rug from the Overdyed Vintage Kokosh Collection is one of a kind, and prices for a 200 x 300cm rug start at \$3000, loomrugs.com.**

**9/ Flooring** Engineered timber boards combine practicality with the look and feel of traditional timber. Prefinished, they can be laid directly over a traditional timber joist frame, concrete and even a heated slab. **The limed oak boards in this room are from Eco Timber Group's 'Urban Oak' range, and cost \$120/sqm/220 x 15mm boards. Visit urban oak.com.au.**





\*PRICES MAY VARY ON APPLICATION. LOOK INTO YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS BEFORE STARTING ANY RENOVATION WORK

## the tally

Sliding doors	\$35,000
Armchairs	\$1240
Rendered wall	\$36
Fireplace	\$4855
Artwork	\$39,000
Sofa	\$4769
Coffee table	\$3150
Rug	\$3000
Timber flooring	\$1200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$92,250*</b>





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BEST BUYS

# mugs

Start your day on the right  
note with a comforting brew  
in the perfect cup

STYLING ADAM POWELL PHOTOGRAPHY SAM McADAM-COOPER

From left: 'Tapas' stoneware mug, \$8.95, Country Road, [countryroad.com.au](http://countryroad.com.au). Porcelain tea beaker in Indigo, \$50, Jardan, [jardan.com.au](http://jardan.com.au). R&W copper cup, \$130, Ginkgo Leaf, [ginkgoleaf.com.au](http://ginkgoleaf.com.au). Marc Newson For Noritake fine bone china mug, \$60/pair, Living Edge, [livingedge.com.au](http://livingedge.com.au). 'Intaglio' fine bone china mug, \$39.95, Wedgwood, [wedgwood.com.au](http://wedgwood.com.au). 'Round' porcelain mug in Dust, \$45, Mud Australia, [mudaustralia.com](http://mudaustralia.com). Takahashi Crafts sen wood 'Kami' mug, \$99, Ginkgo Leaf, as before. 'Cafe' bone china coffee cup with gold handle, \$79.60/set of 4, Citta Design, [cittadesign.com](http://cittadesign.com). Porto 'Mono' teaspoon, \$9.95, Myer, [myer.com.au](http://myer.com.au).





BEST BUYS

# side tables

Move away from a coffee table and make just as big an impact with one of these petite pieces

STYLING ADAM POWELL PHOTOGRAPHY SAM McADAM-COOPER



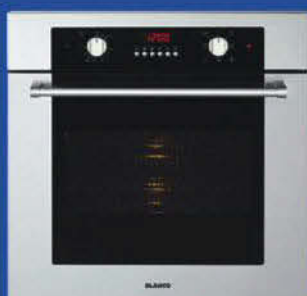
Clockwise from back left: LaCividina 'Scancaro' side table, \$1784, Own World, [ownworld.com.au](http://ownworld.com.au). 'Stiletto' side table, \$349, Freedom, [freedom.com.au](http://freedom.com.au). Bandy stool, \$1353, Jardan, [jardan.com.au](http://jardan.com.au). Ercol 'Svelto' lamp table, \$780, Temperature Design, [temperaturedesign.com.au](http://temperaturedesign.com.au). LaCividina 'Turi Turi' side table, \$911, Own World, as before. Jonathan Adler 'Hans' pedestal table, \$1995, Coco Republic, [cocorepublic.com.au](http://cocorepublic.com.au). 'Studio' wire table, \$179, Life Interiors, [lifeinteriors.com.au](http://lifeinteriors.com.au). Stellarworks 'Lunar' side table, \$725, Living Edge, [livingedge.com.au](http://livingedge.com.au). Brass jack, \$259, Contents International Design, [contentsid.com](http://contentsid.com). George Nelson 'Cone' clock, \$589, Living Edge, as before. Flask, stylist's own. Background in 'Chalkboard' wallpaper, \$69/sqm, Scandinavian Wallpaper & Décor, (08) 9444 2717.





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# circus fun

STYLING **JESSICA HANSON** PHOTOGRAPHY **SAM McADAM-COOPER**





**I** Just as the circus tent needs a spotlight to set the stage, your kid's bedroom needs a pendant to ground the overarching look. The inky blue of this option makes it the perfect hero piece. 'Bezel' **light**, \$1190, Anaesthetic, anaestheticdesign.com.

STYLING ASSISTANCE: GEORGIA HARRINGTON AND TIM CONNAH. BACKGROUND WALL PAINTED IN 'CLEAN & PROTECT' LOW SHEEN PAINT IN DARK SILHOUETTE, \$595/504L, BRITISH PAINTS. BRITISHPAINTS.COM.AU PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

**2** The moody colour palette of this room is lifted with the bright white of the smart and simple bed – its no-fuss design sets the tone for a good night's rest. 'Duken' **bed frame**, \$200, 'Luröy' slatted **base**, \$30, and 'Höväg' pocket sprung **mattress**, \$249, all single size, IKEA, ikea.com.au.



**3** With a design that echoes the classic look of the big top in a palette of muted tones, this floor rug adds texture that complements the sophisticated scheme. Luckyboysunday 'Bobby' **rug**, \$489.95, Little Pie Street, littlepiestreet.com.au.



#### THE STORAGE

Made from sturdy metal and with two clips per box, these trunks will keep all those extras stashed securely out of the way. Plus, their nostalgic quality gives functional storage a stylish edge. Metal **trunks**, \$295/assorted set of 2, Lark, larkstore.com.au.



**“Use hard and soft furnishings in bold colours to warm a moody palette”**

JESSICA HANSON, STYLE EDITOR



'Shake Shape' **pillowcase**, \$35, Sack Me!, sackme.com.au.



Right Handed **print**, \$220, Castle, castleandthings.com.au.



Einadesign 'Circus' **coat rack**, from \$49, Etsy, einadesign.etsy.com.



Normann Copenhagen 'Circus' **pouf**, from \$725, BYMR, (02) 9436 2929.

**AND THE REST...** Littlephant 'Crochet' **pouf**, \$359, Little Pie Street. 'Canteen' **stool**, \$190, Industria X. On stool: 'Pear' concertina **lampshade/sculpture**, \$49, Castle. 'Clown' **mug**, £12, Famille Summerbelle. On bed: Velvet **pillowcase** in Cobalt, \$59, Castle. 'Maximilien And Ludo' **cushion cover**, £40, Famille Summerbelle. Linen **fitted sheet** in Light Blue, \$120/single, In Bed. 'Umbrella Stripe' **flat sheet**, \$159/single set, Aura By Tracie Ellis. 'Pegboard' **quilt cover**, \$135/single, Castle. Silkeborg 'Twist A Twill' **throw**, \$242, Lightly. 'Starlight Express' **bean bag**, \$120, Sack Me!. Melbourne Hats **top hat**, \$99.95, The Hat Store. 'Billy Bunny' **toy**, \$65, La De Dah Kids. 'Jump Rope' **skipping rope**, CAD\$16, Des Enfantillages. 'Big Top' **hook**, \$38, Lightly. *Maximilien The Magician* **print**, £40, Famille Summerbelle. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 148



# when's best to spend or save?

When buying key pieces of furniture, should you go for the affordable choice that suits you now or splurge on one you'll keep forever? Here's our guide to getting it right

WORDS **CARRIE HUTCHINSON**







## 1 sofa

You have kids and pets, and you may outgrow the house you're living in right at this moment, but that doesn't necessarily mean you should forgo making an investment in a beautiful, comfortable sofa.

"If you're not sure that you're in your forever home yet, my best advice is don't buy a modular sofa," says our Panel stylist Lisa Koehler. "Often the mechanisms don't allow you to swap them from being on the left or the right. You're much better off with a three-seater and a two-seater or a three-seater and a couple of armchairs. These options will give you far more flexibility."

Because families tend to live on sofas—not only hanging around on them to watch TV in the evening, but also often eating on them—the choice of fabric is incredibly important. "I always tend to choose a textured fabric because it hides wear and tear better than a solid colour," says Lisa. Neutral tones will never go out of style and you can easily give them the latest look by updating cushions and throws.

Far more destructive to sofas than little ones are your pets, especially cats. Many a couch has been turned into a very expensive scratching post. Leather can be a better option, although you need to keep both your cats' and dogs' claws neatly trimmed as they can easily scratch and damage the surface.



## 2 dining table

Remember those days when you lived in a share house with friends and hosted dinner parties where everyone sat where they could find a space and balanced plates on their knees? Sure, it was fun, but the novelty wears thin when you're a grown-up.

Dining tables come in all shapes and sizes but investing thousands of dollars on a table to fit a small space might not be the best use of your money, especially if there's a chance you might be moving in the next couple of years.

Once you're in a home with a decent-sized dining space, your best bet is a long table in a rectangular shape. "It works in most spaces and 160cm x 90cm is a really flexible size," says Lisa. Of course, the dining table of your dreams (and many others) is probably much bigger than that – often up to three metres long. These can seat 10 to 12 guests, but are also great if you work at home on occasion, or the kids like to do their homework at the table while you're preparing dinner. On a day-to-day basis, you can stack books, crafts and files at one end of the table while the family sits down at the other for dinner.

Square tables are great for dinner parties – "no-one's at one end of the table having more fun," says Lisa – but to get one that seats a dozen (and this also goes for round tables), you'd need a vast space. Also, if there's a chance you'll be moving, you may not be able to fit the table into your new home.

Once you've decided on the size and shape, it's all about the material. Some families look at packets of felt-tip pens and craft scissors and worry about stains and scratches on their tabletops. The truth is, you can easily care for just about any surface. It's important to take into account the flooring and kitchen benches, particularly in an open-plan zone. "Consider the layers," says Lisa. "You don't want a timber benchtop, timber table and timber floors, or even a stone benchtop and stone-topped table. You need some contrast."

There is one finish that Lisa wouldn't choose. "The main surface I would never recommend for anyone with a family is one with a high-gloss finish," she continues. "They just scratch so easily."

When it comes to updating the look of your dining table, simply reimagine the seating. Swap out-dated chairs for ones with higher backs, long benches or even stools or a variety of chairs.



PHOTOGRAPHY (DINING AREA) MICHELLE LEE WILLSON DESIGNER (DINING AREA) CHRISTY ALLEN, CHRISTYALLENDESIGNS.COM



### 3 sideboard

It's really as simple as this – if you've found the perfect sideboard, buy it. "You can always find a wall for it," says Lisa. "I've moved a few times and my sideboard has either gone into my master bedroom, hallway or dining room."

What's more important is finding other pieces – such as coffee tables, bookshelves, and side tables – that complement your beloved sideboard. The easiest look is a white-with-timber combination – white works well with wooden tones and can prevent all the furniture in the room from looking a bit 'samey'.

The sideboard is, however, one of the few pieces of furniture where you can actually get lucky, particularly if you're a fan of modernist styling. Hunting through auction rooms and op shops can sometimes reveal an old Parker or, if you're incredibly fortunate, a piece made by a Danish designer that needs refurbishing. "It's a big job. It's a real labour of love," says Lisa, "but the rewards far outweigh the time you'll put into it."



**going the distance** There's a reason a timber dining table is the foundation piece of many dining areas. The natural good looks are second to none but can also put up with everyday wear and tear. "We love using solid timber," says furniture designer Mark Tuckey. "Watermarks, scratches, even permanent marker are a simple fix with a light sand and re-oil. You'll need clean cotton rags, outdoor furniture oil, fine sandpaper and a bit of old-fashioned elbow grease. Sand the surface lightly, working with the grain and after giving the table a quick wipe, it's now time to oil. Remove the excess and once dry, your table will be good as new."



### 3 investment pieces

**"The best part about solid timber with an oil finish is that it's almost indestructible. Watermarks and scratches are a simple fix with a light sand and re-oil"** MARK TUCKEY, FURNITURE MAKER



**WHAT TO SPEND ON** Eilersen 'Flap' modular sofa, from \$10,400, Spence & Lyda, [spenceandlyda.com.au](http://spenceandlyda.com.au). Vodder '#26' walnut sideboard, \$10,950, Great Dane, [greatdanefurniture.com](http://greatdanefurniture.com). 'Farmhouse' American oak refectory dining table, \$6500, Mark Tuckey, [marktuckey.com.au](http://marktuckey.com.au).



### 3 affordable pieces

**"You can get sofas from IKEA with really good lines. They're perfect if you have little kids or are still getting to your forever house"** LISA KOEHLER, *INSIDE OUT* PANEL STYLIST



**WHAT TO SAVE ON** 'Stocksund' three-seat sofa, \$799, IKEA, [ikea.com.au](http://ikea.com.au). 'Dolly' sideboard, \$675, Milkcart, [milkcart.com.au](http://milkcart.com.au). 'Freida' extension dining table, \$899, Freedom, [freedom.com.au](http://freedom.com.au).



# living in colour

COLOUR AND DESIGN CONSULTANT SARAH THOMPSON TELLS HOW SHE WENT FROM AN ISCD STUDENT TO RUNNING HER OWN BUSINESS



## SARAH'S PATH TO CREATIVE SUCCESS

**Current occupation:** Owner of Sarah Wood Designs. For details, visit [sarahwooddesigns.com.au](http://sarahwooddesigns.com.au).

**Courses studied:** A Colour Design Diploma and an Interior Styling and decorating Diploma at ISCD.

**Previous occupation:** Fashion textile representative.

## THE KEY TO REALISING YOUR CREATIVE GOALS

ISCD general manager Lucy Sutherland says the school's strong industry connections and flexible study options are integral to helping so many students achieve their goals. "Whether students attend our North Sydney campus or study by distance from home, everyone receives all the support they need to realise their true creative potential," she says. ISCD can also help students with anything from securing a great job within the design industry to establishing their own business.

**F**or colour and design consultant Sarah Thompson, the path to owning her own business started with impressing the right people as a student at the International School of Colour+Design (ISCD). Here, she shares what she's learned along the way.

**What exactly do you do?** I work closely with clients in their homes or workplaces to create a colour palette and give styling advice that reflects their taste and supports the function of the space.

**How did your time at ISCD help you get where you are?** Porter's Paints awarded me a prize for a colour palette

I had designed [while at ISCD]. After graduating, I approached Porter's Paints and they offered me a job as an architectural representative. This led me to moving to Melbourne, where I worked as a colour consultant.

**Any advice to people who want to get into the industry and are considering study?** If you are passionate about colour, design and interiors, ISCD is a wonderful school and has fantastic relationships with many businesses in the industry. The possibilities after graduating there are endless.



**ISCD is coming to Melbourne! The new campus opens in early July. For more information, visit [iscd.edu.au](http://iscd.edu.au).**

**Check out the new purpose-built campus, inSTUDIO, which offers the nationally accredited Diploma of Interior Design and Decoration for school leavers and those wanting to study full-time.**

**If you're passionate about colour, design, styling and interiors, and want to change your life or career, contact ISCD to find out more about its on-campus, distance and online courses; call (02) 8355 3838 or visit [iscd.edu.au](http://iscd.edu.au).**



# *in the* throws

Few things keep the  
winter chill at bay like a  
cup of tea (or glass of red)  
and a soft downy throw  
to wrap yourself in



STYLING ASSISTANCE: GEORGIA HARRINGTON, RORY CARTER AND TIM CONNAH

STYLING JOSEPH GARDNER PHOTOGRAPHY SAM McADAM-COOPER







The air may be crisp but your home won't be, with luxe layers and subtle shades. Create an inviting space that speaks of cosy comfort





From chunky statement knits to refined silky weaves, a knitted throw can be as decorative or as practical as you like









## opening page

'Foxfire' **pendant light** by Hugh Altschwager, \$825, Inkster Maken, inkstermaken.com. **From top:** Silkeborg 'Twist A Twill' wool **throw**, \$242, Lightly, lightly.com.au. Bemboka pure Italian cashmere **throw**, \$749, Catapult, catapultdesign.net.au. Artek 'Siena' wool **blanket**, \$295, Anibou, anibou.com.au. Studio Mae Engelgeer 'Nerv Knit' alpaca and wool **throw**, \$695, Designstuff, designstuff.com.au. 'Stitch' **cushions**, \$250 each, Jardan, jardan.com.au. Loop Design felt **storage bin**, \$79.95, Resident GP, residentgp.com.au. American oak 260mm-wide prefinished **timber boards** in Lined Finish (used throughout), \$152.90/sqm, Porter's Paints, porterspains.com.au. Background in **timber stain** in Palm Beach Black (used throughout), \$51.90/1L, Porter's Paints, as before.

## bedroom

Curtain made from Kvadrat 'Drizzle' **fabric** in Colour 141, POA, Kvadrat Maharam, kvadratmaharam.com. 'Great Dane' **bed**, \$6950/double, Great Dane, greatdaneurniture.com. **On bed:** Velvet **pillowcase**, \$59, Castle, castleandthings.com.au. 'Vogul' **pillowcase**, \$29/pair, Abode, abodeliving.com. Linen **pillowcases and fitted sheet set**, \$365/queen, Cultiver, cultiver.com. 'Aspen' flannel **flat sheet**, \$99/double, Abode, as before. E15 'CU06 Nima' **cushions**, from \$220 each, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au. Shilo Engelbrecht **quilt cover**, from \$1430, Spence & Lyda, spenceandlyda.com.au. Mohair **throw** in Moon, \$179, Abode, as before. Mohair **throw** in Dove, \$145, Jardan, jardan.com.au. **On floor:** Marsotto Edizioni 'Toulouse Perpignan' **table**, POA, Hub Furniture, hubfurniture.com.au. **Books**, Ariel Booksellers, arielbooks.com.au. **Crystal**, stylist's own. &Tradition 'Marble SV6' **light**, \$475, Great Dane, as before. Sit-Ka Co fabric and leather **cushion**, \$270, Norsu Interiors, norsu.com.au. Vintage tartan kilim **rug**, \$2899, Halcyon Lake, halcyonlake.com. 'Time Series' **bench**, \$735, Nomi, nomi.com.au. **On bench:** 'Hand Drawn' **tray**, \$69, Shop U, shop-u.com.au. Serax **teapot**, \$69, Resident GP, residentgp.com.au. Stelton 'Frost' **carafe**, \$80, and Bloomingville 'Carina' **cup**, \$20, Designstuff, designstuff.com.au. *Conical Hill* archival giclee **print** by Brooke Holm, \$2950 (unframed), Modern Times, moderntimes.com.au. 'Sabrina' ankle **boots**, \$199/pair, Country Road, countryroad.com.au. Wrong For Hay 'Hat' **box**, \$323, Cult, cultdesign.com.au. Normann Copenhagen 'Tint' lamb's wool **throw** (in hat box), \$170, BYMR, bymr.com.au. Cappellini 'Peg' **mirror**, \$3433, Cult, as before. Bemboka 'Chevron Cable' angora and superfine merino wool **throw**, \$599, Catapult, catapultdesign.net.au. Scandinavian **reindeer hide**, \$995, Great Dane, as before.

## living area

Santa & Cole 'Cesta' **lamp**, \$880, Ajar, ajar.com.au. 'Wood-Grain' **mug**, \$38, Shop U, shop-u.com.au. Ligne Roset 'Ploum' **sofa**, \$7175, Domo, (03) 9277 8888. 'Stitch' **cushion**, \$215, Jardan, (03) 8581 4988. *North* archival giclee **print** by Brooke Holm, \$3050 (framed), Modern Times, (03) 9913 8598. Herman Miller 'Wire Base' **tables** by Charles and Ray Eames, \$505 each, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au. **On table:** Books, Ariel Booksellers, arielbooks.com.au. Lindform 'Kyoto' **vase**, \$115, Funkis, funkis.com. 'Extreme' handmade felted wool **blanket**, \$1695, Little Dandelion, littledandelion.com. 'Alby' **floor cushion**, \$510, Jardan, as before. Bemboka 'Chunky Cable' angora and superfine merino wool **throw**, \$519, Catapult, catapultdesign.net.au. Overdyed vintage **rug**, \$3200, Loom, loomrugs.com.au.

## shelves

**Top shelf, from left:** 'Harper' **cushion**, from \$65, Middle Of Nowhere, middleofnowhere.com.au. 'Hide' leather **cushion**, \$225, Jardan, (03) 8581 4988. 'Esa' **cushion**, \$59.95, Country Road, countryroad.com.au. Missoni 'Romolo #21' **cushion**, \$140, Spence & Lyda, spenceandlyda.com.au. E15 'AC031 Rete' wool and cashmere **blanket**, \$1245, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au. Lindform 'Bottle' **vase**, \$49, Funkis, funkis.com. Wrong For Hay 'Lens' **boxes**, from \$39 each, Cult, cultdesign.com.au. **Centre shelf, from left:** 'Cloud' wool **blanket**, \$578, Jardan, as before. Missoni 'Oswin Plaid #70' wool/nylon **throw**, \$555, Spence & Lyda, as before. Klippan 'Samba' wool **blanket**, \$152, Nordic Fusion, nordicfusion.com.au. 'Spot' **cushion**, \$89, Middle Of Nowhere, as before. **Bottom shelf, from left:** 'Modern Border' alpaca **blanket**, \$429, Scout Lifestyle, scoutlifestyle.com.au. Klippan 'Bjork' wool **blanket**, \$158, Nordic Fusion, as before. 'Cable' wool **cot blanket**, \$275, Luna Gallery, lunagallery.com.au. 'Luna' lamb's wool **blanket**, \$229, Country Road, as before. SCP 'Nos Da' wool **throw**, \$465, Hub Furniture, hubfurniture.com.au. Menu 'Stick System' **storage unit**, \$2800, Design Mode International, designmode.com.au.

## this page

By Wirth leather **coathanger**, \$139, Norsu Interiors, norsu.com.au. 'Engineers' linen **jacket**, \$350, Shilo Engelbrecht, shilo.net.au.



Pair timber with muted tones for a pared-back Scandinavian look, the perfect base for the ultimate hibernation zone



Tie together a bold colour scheme with a floor rug that picks up on the colours of the walls, as well as your key furniture pieces.



'Boston' dining chair in white, \$179. 'Chevron' dining chair in wicker and black steel, \$229. 'Vamp' dining table in rosewood, \$1499. All from OZ Design Furniture, [ozdesignfurniture.com.au](http://ozdesignfurniture.com.au).



# one room, two ways

START WITH A FRESH COLOUR SCHEME FOR YOUR DINING ROOM, THEN CHOOSE A CLASSIC TIMBER TABLE AND CUSTOMISE THE LOOK WITH CHAIRS AND ACCESSORIES FROM OZ DESIGN FURNITURE

**the timber table** A simple timber dining table serves as a neutral base to style the rest of the room around. This classic table has an elegant yet sturdy silhouette.

**statement pieces** Add interest to a soft colour scheme (right) with texture and form – an oversized wicker pendant light above the table and a tufted rug underfoot frames the dining setting nicely.

**stylised accessories** Incorporating metallic accessories (above and right) will elevate your dining room into a soiree-ready space – and a retro-style bar cart is just the ticket for cocktails and other tipples.

**your style, your way** OZ Design Furniture's *Winter 2015 Look Book* showcases four style collections: Abode, Arthouse, Coast and Global. To create the look you prefer, choose from a wide range of pieces, from dining tables to unique statement accessories.

A combination of white, wicker and timber pieces is perfect for creating a bright, casual setting – incorporate metallic accessories for a bit of edge.







# Reno Rumble

One half of the new judging duo on *Reno Rumble*, Romy Alwill tells us



*Reno Rumble* judge and interior designer Romy Alwill. For info on her work, visit [alwill.com.au](http://alwill.com.au). Follow her on Instagram: (@romyalwill) and Twitter (@alwillinteriors)



#### the perfect balance

Different timber tones work in this space, due to the amount of white.



## Romy's top 3

### 1 working to a brief

"What stood out most for me was how well these guys adapted to the brief. The owners wanted a plantation feel – and nothing too trend-based. The home was dark with lots of timber details and Jess and Ayden kept enough to retain the style, but lightened it all up with a fresh white palette and new windows that were brighter than the previous stained glass. They also made smart choices for a family, furniture-wise."





# rundown

why these whole home reveals worked so well

before



“They kept the door frames throughout, but replaced the dark dado rails”

ROMY ALWILL, *RENO RUMBLE* JUDGE AND INTERIOR DESIGNER



**LIVING AREA (left)** In keeping with the owners' desired plantation feel, Ayden and Jess have chosen 'Baha' chairs from GlobeWest ([globest.com.au](http://globest.com.au)). Curtains from IKEA ([ikea.com.au](http://ikea.com.au)) and a cosy GlobeWest 'Vittoria Dante' sofa balance the look. **KITCHEN AND DINING AREA (above)** The cooking zone's practical white scheme with stainless-steel appliances is timeless. The wooden touches aren't too far away though with 'Saltram' stools from Freedom ([freedom.com.au](http://freedom.com.au)) and an Arranmore Furniture dining setting ([arranmorefurniture.com.au](http://arranmorefurniture.com.au)).





**good wood** "Ayden and Jess really respected the timber details of the house. This bedroom fireplace and skirting against the white palette is elegant."

**before**



**2 | master bedroom** "This is the Ralph Lauren version of a bedroom I love it! You could smell the quality of the finishes – it was obvious that they'd taken the floors back and varnished them. It also had some great storage ideas, which is a must in any bedroom."

**3 | bathroom** "These guys are on a really tight budget, and when that's the case, sometimes leaving a nice feature – such as the window frame and stained glass window – gives a plain white bathroom personality, which is what they've done. They also made good choices with the tapware – very appropriate."



**MASTER BEDROOM (top)** The dark 'Karma' bed frame from GlobeWest ([globewest.com.au](http://globewest.com.au)) sets the tone in this refined sleeping zone. A tartan cushion from West Elm ([westelm.com.au](http://westelm.com.au)) and a woven check throw from Freedom ([freedom.com.au](http://freedom.com.au)) add sophisticated texture. **BATHROOM (above)** The custom vanity from Sabrina Shopfitting ([sabinashopfitting.com.au](http://sabinashopfitting.com.au)) echoes the look of the kitchen cabinetry while the wall and floor tiles from Beaumont Tiles ([beaumont-tiles.com.au](http://beaumont-tiles.com.au)) freshen the space.



# blue house

## Romy's top 3

**living area** "Carly and Leighton nailed the modern Aussie look of the moment – their use of raw timber, fresh white and a pop of bold colour mixed with textures was perfect. The only thing I'd say is they didn't really future-proof the space for the owners. It would've been good if they'd integrated the fireplace for a bit more space."



**art and soul** "Art doesn't always have to be the star of the room. In this case, it's a gentle layer, that stops this space feeling like a showroom!"

### blue-tongues



**LIVING AREA (above)** A contemporary take on timber with a mix of textures is the key to Carly and Leighton's living space design. The 'Box' daybed and the 'Cross Base' coffee table, both from Mark Tuckey ([marktuckey.com.au](http://marktuckey.com.au)) form the foundation for the look, while the 'Sweeney' chair from Jardan ([jardan.com.au](http://jardan.com.au)) brings a mid-century form to the mix. The artwork, *Rock Field* by Lindsay Blamey, from Otomys ([otomys.com](http://otomys.com)) perfectly ties in all the tones of the space, standing out against the white walls.





**study hard** "Even in the office space, the team found ways to incorporate texture."

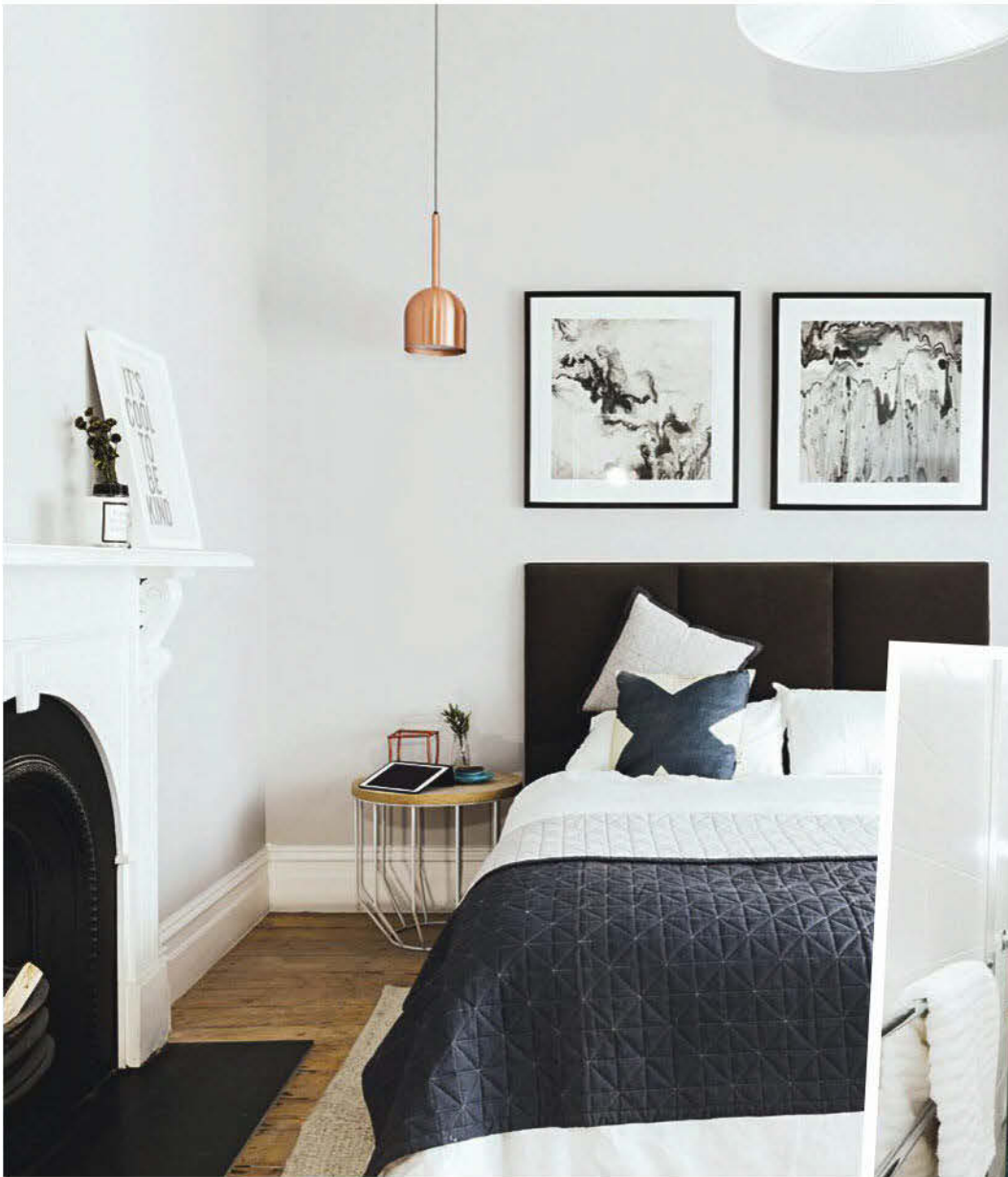


**before**

**2 | kitchen** "Apart from the fact that Carly and Leighton did well to carry through the timber colour palette with the wood veneer cupboard fronts, this team also created a couple of other great features in this kitchen. Their clever use of bold finishes, including the oversized handles on the pantry, give it guts, proving that not all handles have to match. Also, continuing the drawers all the way through is great – a much better use of space. Loved it."

**KITCHEN (top)** HK Living black rattan stools from House Of Orange ([house-of-orange.com.au](http://house-of-orange.com.au)) cleverly tie in with the bold handles of this cooking zone by Freedom Kitchens ([freedomkitchens.com.au](http://freedomkitchens.com.au)). **GUEST BEDROOM (opposite, top)** Artworks by Jacqui Macumber from Inkah Art ([inkahart.bigcartel.com](http://inkahart.bigcartel.com)) play up the room's darker tones. **BATHROOM (opposite, right)** 'Arkitek Graphite' tiles from Beaumont Tiles ([beaumont-tiles.com.au](http://beaumont-tiles.com.au)) and a custom vanity by Just Eco Timber ([justecotimber.com.au](http://justecotimber.com.au)) offer texture.





**feature elements** "I like the way they've given the shower a lift with the concrete-look tiles, and the vanity and oversized sink was a lovely touch."



**"Sometimes you can play it too safe – this colour palette felt a little dreary to me"**

ROMY ALWILL, *RENO RUMBLE* JUDGE AND INTERIOR DESIGNER

**3 | guest bedroom** "While this bedroom was successful, in that it was clean and beautiful, I found it a little masculine (Darren disagreed, but then he's a boy!). I'm not a girly girl, but this palette felt a little dreary and safe. Also, there were too many pendant lights they needed a better lighting plan. Great pendants should draw your eye where you want it to go in the room. I think they should be reserved for highlights to create beautiful shapes."





# Be a stylist in your own home



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One half of *The Block*:  
Glasshouse's winning duo,  
Shannon Vos of VosCreative,  
voscreative.com.

## DESIGN FOCUS

# open-plan living design

This issue, Shannon tackles that modern dilemma: how to get combined spaces right. Here are his top three floorplan solutions

WORDS SHANNON VOS



**P**reparation is key. Or, as my brother, Simon, was quoted saying on *The Block*: “Prior proper preparation prevents piss-poor performance.” Not too subtle, but the truth shines through. Open-plan living is great in many ways, but can be tricky to get right. The most common mistake is a space that feels awkward, with no flow or focus — a dog’s breakfast. Proper planning where your furniture will go (from sofas to lamps) will make life so much easier, not only when you start to build or renovate a space, but when you’re making those big investment purchases and in turn, when you start to live in that area. You’ll be surprised how much better it will all come together if you keep in mind those seven Ps. Let’s take a look at three solid layouts for the most popular open-plan living shapes. Turn the page to check out Shannon’s smart solutions to three common open-plan layouts.

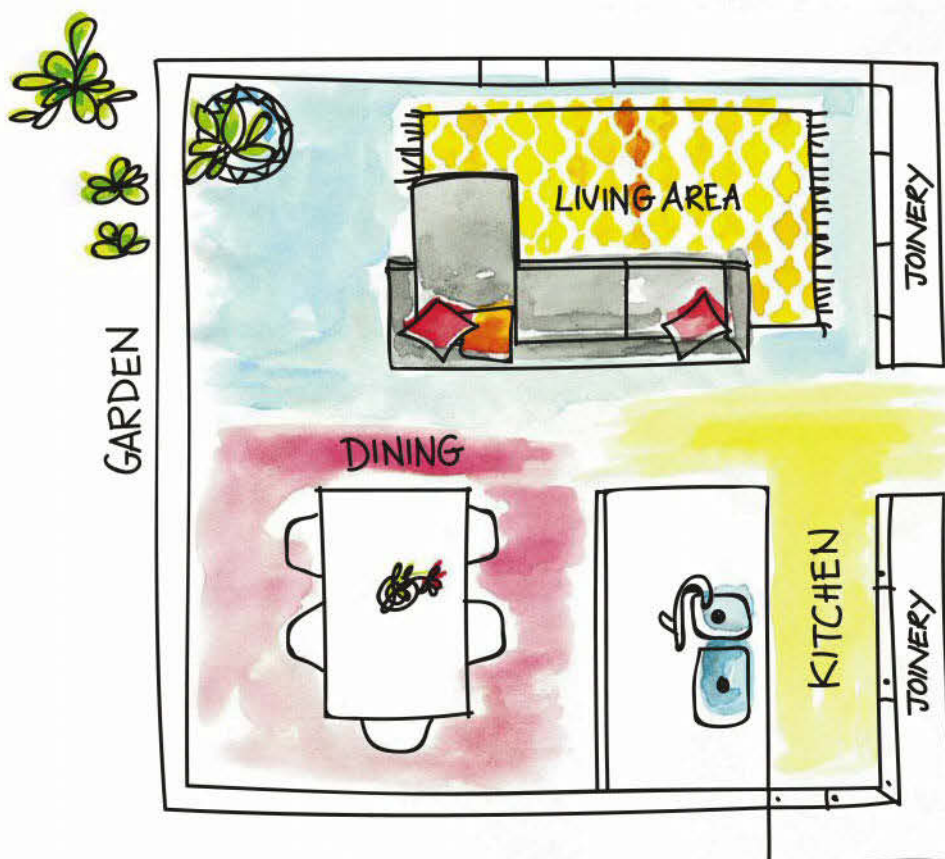
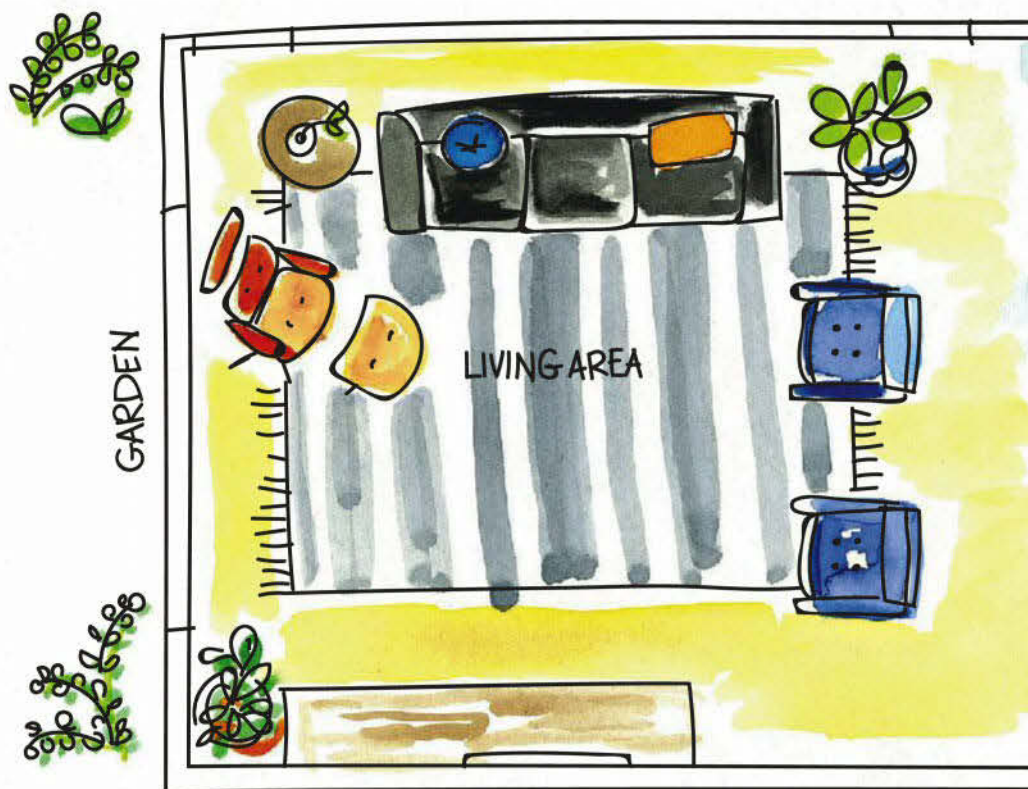


# are you long, square or L-shaped?

Every home will have different spaces that require a case-by-case approach to layout,

## long room

- 1/** When lining up space lengthways, ensure you leave a gap of at least 800mm between separate zones.
- 2/** Avoid a TV-focused orientation, or positioning the TV opposite a window. On one hand, you don't want it to dominate, but then you do still need to be able to see it.
- 3/** Use an oversized rug to mark out a zone for your living space.
- 4/** A quick and easy way to create a connection between the spaces is to repeat the use of colours or textures.
- 5/** The kitchen and dining spaces tend to work best when they're connected.
- 6/** If you don't need six dining seats, consider flipping the table 90 degrees and pushing it against the kitchen bench.
- 7/** Incorporate greenery into the space adjacent the outdoors to create a nice merge between the two.
- 8/** DECLUTTER! We don't need half of what we have (this goes for all spaces).

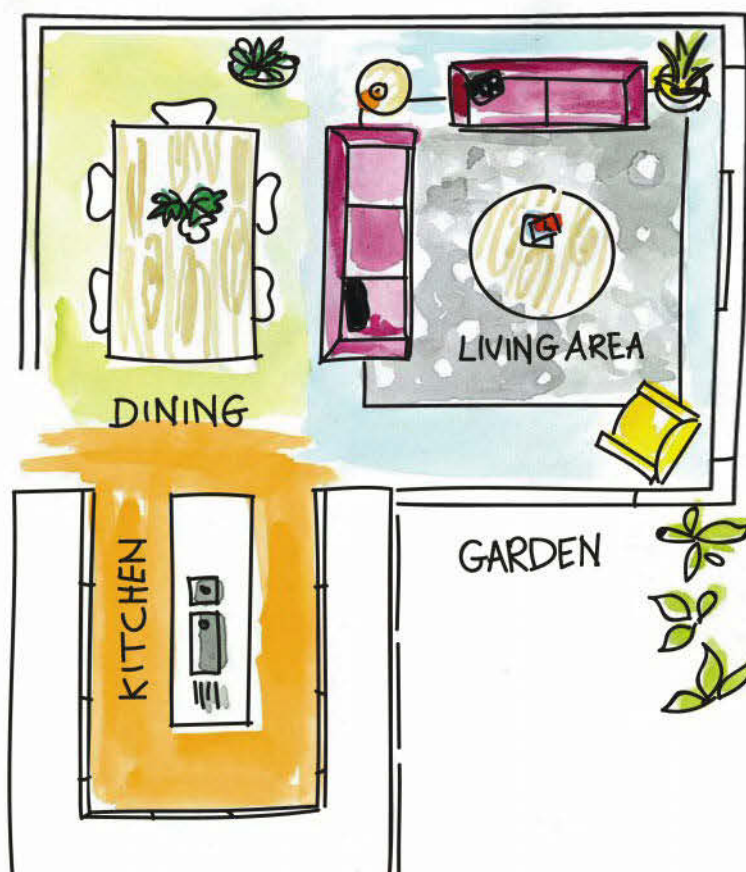
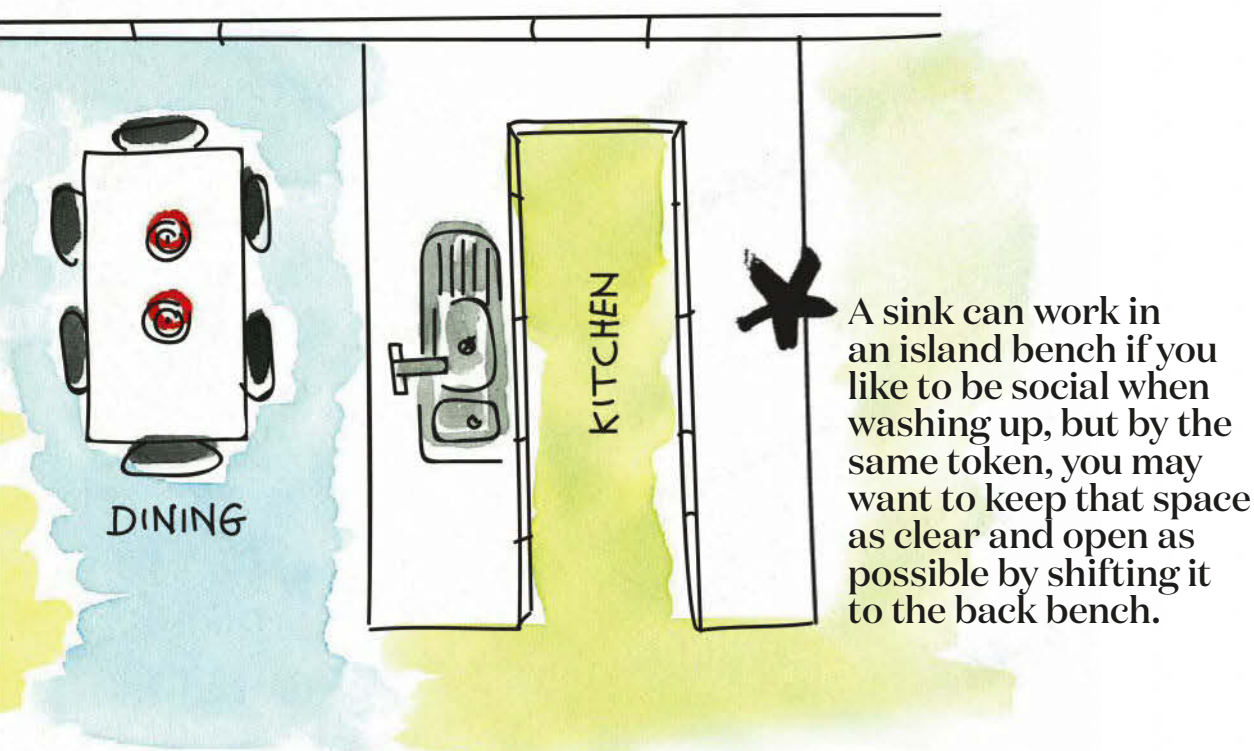


## square space

- 1/** In a square space, you almost end up dividing it in half, and then creating two smaller areas from one. In this case, the kitchen and dining are in one half, then the living space ends up a little more roomy. Consider which section you want larger.
- 2/** Joinery is always a good way to define and link zones: use the same material combinations to tie them together nicely.
- 3/** Instead of creating movement in and around the area, a square should feel open and clutter free.
- 4/** The kitchen shouldn't feel secondary, instead keep it open to the other spaces and avoid tall storage between zones. Island benches are a good option.
- 5/** I've found an L-shaped or modular sofa works best in a long skinny living room, however, you could also go for a long couch with occasional chairs.
- 6/** Use a wider kitchen bench (wider than 1000mm). It's rare to have the space, so make the most of it.



but here are three common options and the best way to attack them



## L-shaped zone

**1/** The great thing about an L-shaped space is that the zones are already defined. The kitchen is usually best kept in the space by itself and place the living and dining together to keep unwanted noise to a minimum.

**2/** Allow a 1000mm gap down the thoroughfare that splits the L.

**3/** An L-shape normally incorporates an outdoor section of some sort. It's a great opportunity to orient the flow of your space to include the outdoors.

**4/** If it's possible, find a way to make your kitchen open to the outdoors: you will thank me in summer.

**5/** If there's a flow between inside and out, avoid flooring choices that stain easily, as you'll have dirty foot traffic.

**6/** Orient your furniture towards your most valuable asset: outdoors. Whether that's a garden, courtyard, or even a window, take it into account when you're positioning your sofa, dining table and kitchen, to maximise the outlook.







# STAR STYLE

How do architects really live? Stephen Crafti's new book *Architects' Houses* takes us into the homes of leading Australian talent

WORDS **STEPHEN CRAFTI** PHOTOGRAPHY **GORTA YUUKI**





## JOHN HENRY ▲

In John Henry's bush warehouse, divisions within the home are blurred. Rather than walls enclosing rooms, the demarcation lines are literally

drawn in the dirt. A native-style rock garden, designed by landscape architect Sam Cox together with Henry, separates the kitchen and dining area from the living area.

While the backdrop is essentially white, the home explodes with vibrant colour, both in the furniture and with the selection of art, the latter predominantly from the late 1960s and 1970s, when pop art ruled. Artists such as Robert Rauschenberg and David O'Halloran are represented, as is the work of Peter Wright and David Aspin. Trevor Vickers and Sydney Ball are displayed, as are works by John Coburn and John Vickery, the latter specialising in black-and-white optical art. But it's the extraordinary collection of furniture that resonates, with a who's who of the design world represented: architects and designers such as Oscar Niemeyer, Frank Gehry, Marc Newson and Le Corbusier, not to mention Featherston's iconic Talking Chairs. "I like collecting objects and furniture designed by architects. It's the finest form of sculpture," says Henry, who continues to look out for designer classics from the twentieth century. Visit [johnhenryarchitects.com.au](http://johnhenryarchitects.com.au).



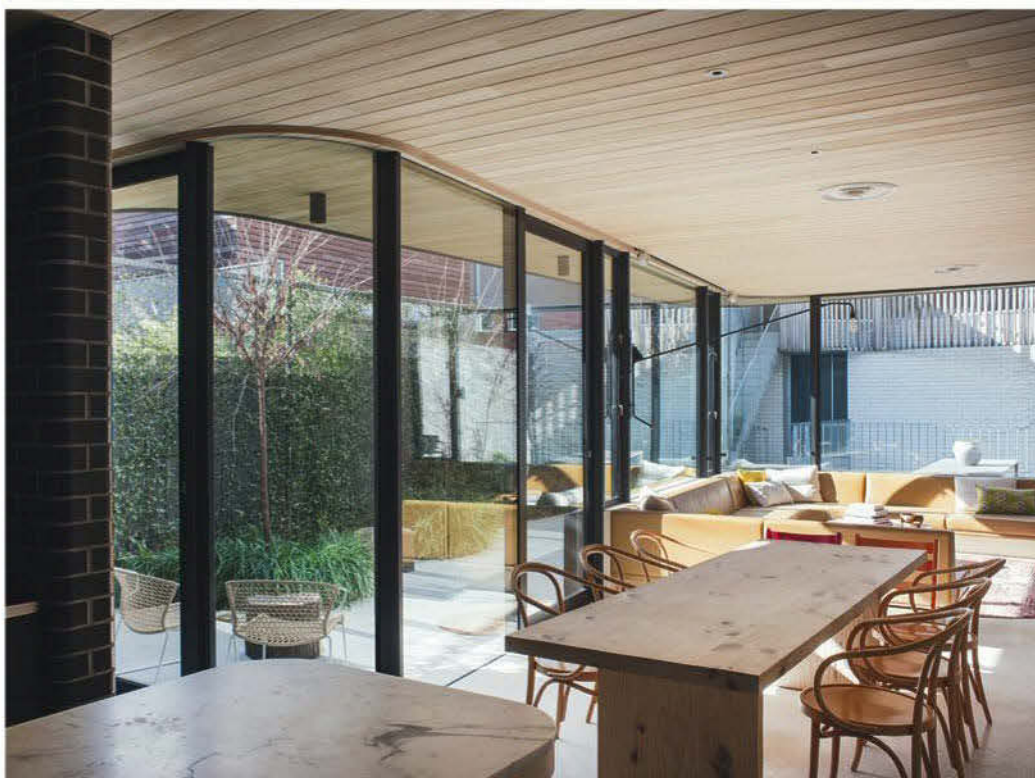
## CLARE COUSINS ▼

The renovation of Clare Cousins' home, with its glazed bricks and curvaceous form, is slightly evocative of the late 1960s.

Likewise, the built-in lounge (seating 16), which wraps around the living area, is suggestive of the 'conversation pits' of this era. "I love this design period," says Cousins, who deliberately created a 'cul-de sac' in the living area. "This creates a more intimate space, where people aren't continually walking through," says Cousins. Locating the built-in lounge directly against the glass walls also provides greater connectivity to the garden.

While Cousins thinks the formal dining room is well outmoded, she still sees a need for two living areas, particularly for families with four or more people. Although she initially thought about including doors between these two living spaces, she decided to keep them open. "You don't see the children's toys from the kitchen or living area," she adds.

Visit [clarecousins.com.au](http://clarecousins.com.au).







**SAM  
MARSHALL  
& LIANE  
ROSSLER >**

To accommodate the collection of art in the living area, Sam Marshall removed windows

and created continuous walls. All this seems at odds with the way many architects would operate. Marshall more than compensated by adding new glass and aluminium sliding doors to the patio. Further light was also introduced by a light well set behind a living room wall. And, rather than break up the art collection, the one wall holds works by Rosalie Gascoigne, Brent Harris, Louise Weaver, Peter Atkins and photographer Bill Henson.

The art diminishes the presence of the television in the living room, which functions as a multi-purpose space. "It's not a precious space. We move the lounge suites [designed by MAP] depending on the use. And if we're entertaining, the credenza acts as an extension of the dining table," says Rossler.

Visit [marshall.net.au](http://marshall.net.au).



**DENNIS  
RABINOWITZ <**

The kitchen and living area, with its fireplace and alcoves, is the hub of the house. Intimate and light-filled, it's the

place where architect Dennis Rabinowitz, a principal of JPR Architects, and his artist wife, Joan, gravitate. 'Drunken rendered' walls, appearing as though hand-beaten, suggest the primitive rather than the sleek and polished look that many architects prefer. "Joan and I grew up in small towns. We both love the bush, and are attracted to the organic and tribal," says Rabinowitz. Wherever one looks, there are artefacts from the couple's original homeland in South Africa. Exquisitely beaded crowns, worn by African chiefs, fill one alcove.

While the kitchen, dining and living room is relatively modest in area, it has been thoughtfully considered to allow for larger groups, as well as for the couple's needs. Visit [jpra.com.au](http://jpra.com.au).





THE CEILING IS BASED ON THE EFFECT OF RIPPLES MADE IN A POND BY THROWING A PEBBLE



**ROB McBRIDE & DEBBIE RYAN** ➤

One of the most spectacular features in this home is the treatment of the ceiling, which starts at the front door and

extends down the entire passage into the open-plan kitchen and living areas. This ceiling also travels beyond the large glass doors, appearing in the generous eaves. This extraordinary ceiling, made from thousands of MDF blocks of varying size, fixes the eye. "We had the idea of showing the effect of ripples made in a pond by throwing a pebble," says Debbie Ryan, who concealed LED lights in the ceiling to create a variety of moods depending on the light and time of day. "At times, it can shed the same light as a storm cloud waiting to break," she adds. She wasn't surprised by the joiner's reaction when handed the computer-generated model for the ceiling. "He freaked out at first. He's a master at what he does but had never done anything like it." Visit [mcbridecharlesryan.com.au](http://mcbridecharlesryan.com.au).





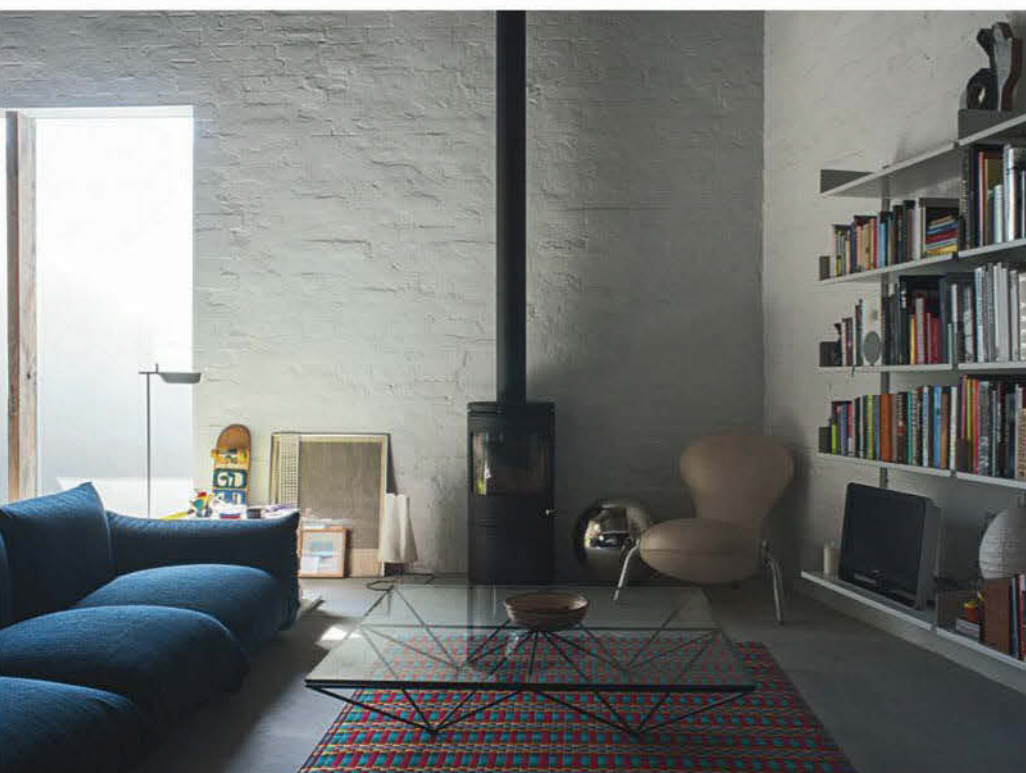


## STEPHEN JOLSON >

To ensure that his home's city view wasn't broken up, Stephen Jolson created one large living space, loosely divided by three

elements. Separating the staircase from the kitchen is a wall of joinery, constructed in black American oak. This unit contains a cocktail bar at one end and built-in fridge and pantry at the other. The second 'block' is what's referred to as the 'art wall'. Featuring a large canvas of a blown-up photo of the vats used for making sweets, this screen (a reference to the home's former life as a confectionery factory) encased by a steel frame conceals hotplates at one end and a home office bench at the other. The third element is the wall with the fireplace and a painting by artist Ben Quilty. And, to ensure the living area doesn't become a permanent television room, the TV set is located within this wall, and only revealed at the touch of a button.

Visit [jolson.com.au](http://jolson.com.au).



## HEIDI DOKULIL & RICHARD PETERS <

When it came to furnishing the living areas, the couple were mindful of allowing the space

to 'breathe', both physically and visually. A large glass window and sliding door, linked to a northern light well, assist with the former criteria. And, for the latter, anything attached to the walls is simple. The industrial steel shelves in the living area, for example, are Dieter Rams, circa 1960. Rather than fill up the living areas with furniture, there are a few key pieces including an Eames plywood chair as well as an 'Embryo' chair designed by Marc Newson. Unlike many designer spaces, which sometimes lack character, Dokulil prefers an eclectic style. As well as designer pieces, there's a flotsam and jetsam of objects treasured for their memories. Even Peters's skateboard appears as an objet d'art, leaning against the living room wall.

Visit [richardpetersassociates.com.au](http://richardpetersassociates.com.au).



This is an edited extract from *Architects' Houses* by Stephen Crafti (\$79.99, Murdoch Books).





**DOMENIC  
ALVARO**

Recipient of a World Architecture Award in 2011, this multi-level home punches well above its size. Designed by

architect Domenic Alvaro as his family home, the concrete house occupies a sliver of land in Surry Hills, Sydney.

Furniture, whether purchased or created by Alvaro and manufactured by A.B. Projects, was paramount to the design. Walnut bookshelves, by Alvaro, screen the living area from the stairwell. Likewise, the smoked oak credenza, also by A.B. Projects, creates a warmer tone against the basalt floors. "I wanted the spaces to be fairly streamlined, but the art and objects we've collected over the years can be displayed," says Alvaro, pointing out a painting by Stephen Ormandy and photographs by Christopher Morris. However, with daughter Alessia on the scene, the living room is also her play area, with a playpen filled with toys. Visit [domenicalvaro.com](http://domenicalvaro.com).

THIS SPACE FEATURES  
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Next issue, we'll be looking at homes that are basically white, but have a whole lot of personality. A white kitchen is safe for good reason!

In our September issue, you can expect a load of beautiful decorative advice, plus an inspirational family home renovation and a dining chair buyer's guide with a personal twist...

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# inside

## easy mix Keeping it simple can be the perfect style solution

In an older home, it can be a little tricky to pull a variety of textures and materials into perfect harmony as a whole. Turn to an understated timeless base – white. A clean tone will balance out the look, offering a sense of space and a fresh feel. Here, it helps all the different timber tones to work together. Turn to page 86 to see more of this Tasmanian cottage.



# IN THE FRAME

ONE COUPLE FOUND A DREAM HOME AT THE RIGHT PRICE AND THEN MANAGED TO UPDATE IT AT HALF THE ESTIMATED COST

WORDS **CARRIE HUTCHINSON** STYLING **TAMARA MAYNES & CARLY SPOONER**


PHOTOGRAPHY **MARK ROPER**




## CHEAT SHEET

**Who lives here?** Product designer and consultant Jung Won Yun, her barrister husband Bart Carew and son Arki, 2.

**Style of house:** A 1960s A-frame home designed by architect Ted Karasinski in Melbourne's leafy eastern suburbs.

 The extensive renovation took 15 months from start to finish.

 Jung did the design work with the help of interior designer Jasmine McClelland; and had a builder friend and his apprentice on the build. The job was completed for about half of the \$600k architects had estimated.



**FACADE (opposite)** The entry honours the house's original design. **DINING ROOM** Set in the home's unique A-frame, this space features the original stone floor. Owner Jung made a model of the lights - Vistosi 'Diadema' pendant lamps imported from Italy - from paper and chopsticks to ensure they were hung at exactly the right height. A Mark Tuckey table is teamed with MDF Italia 'Flow' chairs from Hub Furniture.





"WE TRIED TO RESTORE THE  
PLACE BUT DO IT WITH A BIT  
OF A MODERN TWIST"

JUNG WON YUN, OWNER







**W**ander the surrounding streets of this leafy Melbourne enclave and you'll notice that many of the original homes have been replaced with faux Georgian mansions. That was never an option for Jung Won Yun and Bart Carew.

They had been house-hunting for about 12 months when they stumbled upon the "blank canvas" just days before it was to be sold.

"We had a huge checklist of everything we wanted," says Jung, sitting in the airy kitchen. "We wanted a '60s-era home, two lounge areas, three to four bedrooms – you know, fairly standard things. But then we also had a wishlist – a single-level house, a cellar, an internal courtyard – and with this place, we ended up with them all."

When they called the real-estate agent, he quoted a price way out of their range, but the couple decided to go to the auction to see what happened. No-one bid and, after a bit of negotiating, Jung and Bart were the proud owners of a 1960s house. Look at the photos they took after settlement though, and the only way you'd recognise it was the same residence is the matching A-frame.

"The original '60s design was very bright and open," explains Jung, adding that a renovation in the 1970s had changed all that. "There were turquoise wallpaper and moons and stars painted on the cupboard doors. The original stove was still here but the oven had rusted out because of leaks. There was wood-veneer panelling on the A-frame walls that was peeling. Even the A-frame beams were mission brown. The first time it rained, we were running around placing buckets all over the house!"

As a designer, Jung knew she wanted to oversee the renovation herself. The couple lived in the house for a few months to get a feel for it. Though they knew the house was in "a really poor state", the couple hadn't anticipated what an extensive job they were in for.



**SECOND LIVING AREA (opposite)** The living space at the rear of the home features an original stone wall. The mid-century vibe is further enhanced by an iconic vintage Fritz Hansen '4305' chair by Ebbe and Karen Clemmense. **PORTRAIT (above left)** Owners Jung and Bart with their son Arki. **OPEN-PLAN LIVING (above right)** The kitchen, dining and living space also includes a work nook, with shelves displaying market finds – the painting was found at Camberwell Sunday Market. The 'Mega Bulb' pendant lights and Moller table are both from Great Dane.





**CELLAR (above)** The wine cellar is one of Bart's favourite features. Now, it's used to store his wine collection, but he'd like to add a small music studio to it, so he can play his electric guitar to his heart's content. The deer painting by Hiroyasu Tsuru makes the most of the zone's roomy proportions. **ARKI'S ROOM (above right)** A shapely Stokke 'Sleepi' bed keeps with the home's Scandi furniture. A Pia Wallen throw and a reindeer hide from Great Dane are cosy touches. **HALLWAY (opposite)** Because they had most of the furniture they needed when they married, Jung and Bart started a registry at Olsen Irwin Gallery. They chose this David Band painting, fittingly entitled *Love Poem*.



*bright idea*

Jung made this jute artwork for Arki's room, creating a personal piece.

"It wasn't until we ripped off the wallpaper that we saw the walls were deteriorating and some of the studwork needed replacing," says Jung. "We put on a new roof, laid down a new floor, put in new plumbing and wiring... It was a complete rebuild in many ways."

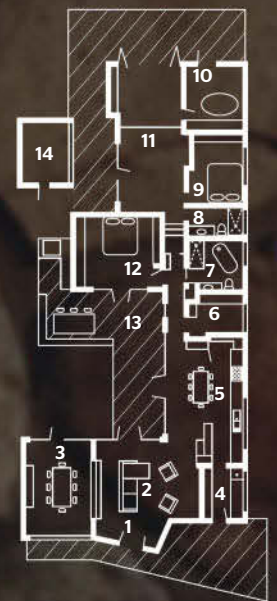
She was, however, committed to maintaining the home's heritage. Where it was possible, original features – the stone wall in the rear living area and the dining room's stone floor – have been retained.

In all, the build, undertaken by a tiny team of two whom Jung knew and trusted, took 15 months. Although it seems like a long time, the often-slow process allowed details to be fine-tuned. "I really loved the whole renovation process," says Jung. "I'd do it all again because I love a challenge. I had such a strong vision and it was lovely to see it come to fruition."

That's unlikely to happen however. Almost five years after they moved in, the couple is still enamoured with their home. "The A-frame definitely gives us visual pleasure every day," says Jung. "When we're not using the space for entertaining, Bart likes to read the papers there or play his guitars. It was designed to be a music room, so it's nice that it still gets used in that way. Our home also provides a beautiful environment for our son, Arki. It's a wonderful family home that has contributed so much to our quality of life."

Jung delights in the little things: the fact that she can unload the dishwasher and put everything away without having to take a step in either direction; the power points built into cupboards so there's no clutter of phone chargers. "It's so nice to be able to enjoy it," she says. "We're homebodies – we just love being here." **10** Jung is currently undertaking private interior design projects and drawing commissions – email [designstudiojung@gmail.com](mailto:designstudiojung@gmail.com). Contact builder Andrew Nicola on 0423 398 707. For more of interior designer Jasmine's work, visit [jasminemcclellanddesign.com.au](http://jasminemcclellanddesign.com.au).





1. Entry
2. Living area
3. Dining area
4. Laundry
5. Kitchen
6. Study
7. Bathroom
8. Bathroom
9. Bedroom
10. Arki's bedroom
11. Family area
12. Master bedroom
13. Internal courtyard
14. Studio



## LESSONS LEARNT

"WE LASTED ONE NIGHT HERE ONCE THE RENOVATION STARTED - THERE WAS TOO MUCH DUST" JUNG WON YUN, OWNER

**Best advice:** "Work with people you trust. Part of the reason our reno took so long was because our builder, Andrew Nicola, is a perfectionist. It was well worth the wait though - nothing can replace quality workmanship and the satisfaction you get from living with it every day."

**Biggest mistake:** "Deciding to split our renovation over two stages. The first stage was the home and the front and courtyard gardens, and the second stage was the backyard and pool. Due to cost and uncertainty of our future needs, we left this second stage for a later date but this was not the best decision in hindsight. You tend to lose momentum, especially once kids come into the picture, and it has taken us five years to only now finish."



### *star performer*

Throughout the home, Jung and Bart have feature walls to add another texture to the mix - clad in stone, timber panelling or, in this case, a nature-inspired wallpaper in the master bedroom.







**MASTER BEDROOM (opposite)** Every morning Jung and Bart wake up to the rising sun since their room faces the internal courtyard. The Flos 'Glo-Ball S' light by Jasper Morrison brings a touch of retro appeal, as does the mustard shade of the Cole & Son wallpaper and the David Fussenegger throw. An indigo linen quilt cover from Adairs brings a sophisticated tone to the room.

**BATHROOM (above)** This wet zone is a study of form with feature elements – Tasmanian blackwood joinery that matches the kitchen cabinetry, an Apaiser 'Haven' stone composite bath on a plinth and a Carla Ruffino artwork.

RUG, ARMADILLO&CO, ARMADILLO-COCOM, SIDE TABLE, WEST ELM, WEST ELM.COM.AU, 5 GREAT FINDS' PRODUCT SOURCING: JOSEPH GARDNER, PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

## RENO REWIND



The before shots of Jung and Bart's home show how big the transformation has been.



### 5 GREAT FINDS

1

Cole & Son 'Cow Parsley' wallpaper, \$240/10m roll, Radford Furnishings, (03) 9818 7799.

2

Hardwood flooring in New England Oak, \$70/sqm, Boral Timber, boral.com.au/timber.

3

Cultured stone in Aspen, POA, Boral Stone, boral.com.au/stone.

4

'Perfect' floor paint in Milk, \$44.90/1L, Porter's Paints, porterspains.com.au.

5

Concrete flooring panel in Natural Grey, \$141.90/sqm, Royal Oak Floors, royaloakfloors.com.au.



# family charu

One family has tackled the age-old problem of keeping the original appeal of their Tasmanian cottage, while still updating it to suit their lifestyle

WORDS SALLY FELDMAN STYLING MEGAN MORTON PHOTOGRAPHY BROOKE HOLM









### *cheat sheet*

**Who lives here?** Teachers Rebecca Wiggins and her husband Rodney, their sons, Rupert, 7; Frederick, 4; and Humphrey the golden retriever.

**Style of house:** A 100-year-old weatherboard cottage in Hobart with a modern extension.

 Work started in 2012 and was completed in 2014, taking around 18 months.

 The renovation and extension was originally budgeted at \$200k but ended up closer to \$250k.

**DINING AREA** Stripping away the wallpaper in the dining space, owner Rebecca discovered newspaper from the 1920s and kept a couple of pages to frame and hang on the wall: "The framers couldn't understand why I wanted to hang them, but it turned out that one had an article about one of Rodney's aunts' family, which was uncanny!" **GARDEN** Son Frederick on a tree swing in the backyard of the Tasmanian home.





**J**ust over a decade ago, Rebecca and Rodney, fell for a weatherboard cottage in the hillside suburb of Dynnynne in Hobart. “Our first impression was of how light it was. It felt homey – it had soul,” says Rebecca.

It had started life as a modest, four-room cottage, and over the years had grown in that organic way typical of so many older homes. For Rebecca and Rodney, the disparately proportioned spaces, ceiling heights and other oddities that make up the fabric of this dwelling were what added to its beauty and character.

“When we first moved in, some of our neighbours showed us photos of the original house,” says Rebecca. “The hallway was once an enclosed verandah, and the floorboards had been laid in different directions in various rooms. It had obviously evolved over time and, in the past two years, it’s evolved again, since we added our little ‘pod’ downstairs.”

That ‘pod’, in fact, is a contemporary extension of the area below the house and deck built on a double block. But it wasn’t the Wiggins’ original idea. “We wanted to go up and have a ‘retreat’ just for us,” says Rebecca. “We had planned to create a space for our boys later on, but in the end we decided that if we waited another 10 years, we’d only have five before they grew up and moved on.”

For the renovation, the Wiggins took their “booklet of things we liked” to a local architect they knew and whose work they admired – Daniel Lane, co-director of Melbourne-based Preston Lane Architects. “Our tastes, our aesthetics, were on the same page,” says Rebecca, “so there was never a sense of being told what we should do.” After prolonged discussions – “it took us a long time to commit!” – they decided to build downstairs, partly due to budget constraints, but mostly because “it just made more sense to focus on somewhere we could all spend time together”.



f

**KITCHEN (these pages)** Other than a fresh coat of paint on the timber cabinets, the Smeg fridge and a new stove and rangehood, the kitchen "is as is when we purchased the house", says Rebecca (pictured with son Frederick). The table is an antique piece found locally while the Smeg fridge has its admirers. "People always ask about it when they visit," says Rebecca. "We adore the old-school look of it. As our kitchen is old, everything is freestanding and the Smeg was our only option when our old fridge needed to be replaced. Eventually, we'll need two so we plan to sit them side-by-side."







**DINING AREA** "A lot of the pieces around the house are family treasures," says Rebecca. "The champagne glasses and teacups were my grandmother's, and my mother bought me the teapot. The candles are from our wedding - we had our little champagne reception in the garden here - it was beautiful."

**STUDY (opposite)** From the study, you can eye the warm beauty of the mix of original timber floorboards, which haven't been touched by Rebecca and Rodney since they've lived here. "They certainly need some love in the near future," says Rebecca.





The brief was simple – to integrate a pared-back, modern extension downstairs with the older part of the house, without either losing their integrity. “I wanted a look that was very different to the upstairs, but still linked, which is why we have the lovely Tasmanian oak detailing downstairs,” says Rebecca. Rupert and Frederick’s rooms would be kept small to encourage them to spend time with the rest of the family, and generously sized sliding doors in the “lower lounge” – as it’s now called – would connect inside with out, opening onto the garden and pool.

Considering the time frame, and that there were two pre-school-age children at home, the build ran pretty smoothly. “I actually loved it!” smiles Rebecca. “We blocked off the stairs and the deck, which at that point was just a void, so the boys couldn’t fall out – and we’d sit at the window and watch the work going on. The boys absolutely loved it, too.”

It was only towards the end, during ‘The Big Concrete Fiasco’ that things got a little more stressful. “There were the usual budget worries, including an unexpected blowout of \$40,000 to put in stormwater infrastructure,” says Rebecca. “Plus, we took the builder and architect’s advice not to have underfloor heating because it might cause the concrete floor to crack, but it cracked anyway.”

On reflection though, there’s little that Rebecca would change. “At times, there are things I wished we’d gone ahead with – like the cabinetry we’d planned in the lower lounge, and the timber sliding doors. But the space works so well and we adore it.” Standing on the sun-filled deck, with its views to Hobart and the Derwent River, it’s easy to see why. **10** Follow Rebecca on Instagram at [@thirteenredshoesblog](#) and check out her store at [thirteenredshoes.bigcartel.com](#). For more of Daniel’s work, visit [prestonlane.com.au](#). For info on Robec Building, visit [robecbuilding.com.au](#).





*bright idea*

To encourage her boys to spend time in the living area, Rebecca has created a rotating display of picture books, on offer at kid-friendly height.

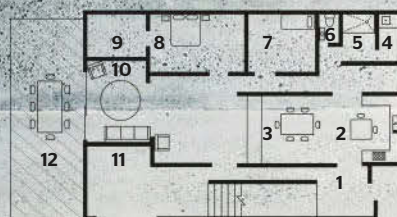
February						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

*"The books are changed weekly or if certain interests arise – right now, Rupert is keen on space and animals"*

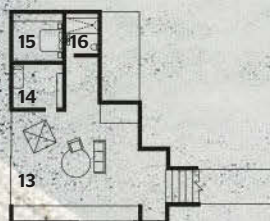
REBECCA WIGGINS, OWNER



**LOWER LOUNGE (opposite)** Relics of the past have made their way down into the new under-storey extension, which was originally a storage area. The bentwood chair is an antique find from a local store. The 'Studio' sofa from Freedom, a raw-hewn table and woven rug (**this page**) bring a tactile warmth to this contemporary space. The stairs have been maintained from the original cottage and form an apt passageway between the old and the new.



UPPER FLOOR



LOWER FLOOR

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Entry          | 9. Sitting room |
| 2. Kitchen        | 10. Living area |
| 3. Dining area    | 11. Study       |
| 4. Laundry        | 12. Deck        |
| 5. Bathroom       | 13. Lounge      |
| 6. WC             | 14. Bedroom     |
| 7. Bedroom        | 15. Bedroom     |
| 8. Master bedroom | 16. Bathroom    |





**THE  
MAGIC  
3**

**1**

Boralstone **polished concrete** in Latte, POA, Boral, [boral.com.au](http://boral.com.au).

**2**

Ergon 'Architect Resin' **tile** in Bruxelles Black (600 x 600mm), from \$95/sqm, Signorino Tile Gallery, [signorino.com.au](http://signorino.com.au).

**3**

12mm laminate **flooring** in Dijon Oak, from \$41.25/sqm, Formica, [formica.com.au](http://formica.com.au).



*classic twist*

Star stylist Megan Morton's 5 tips for blending the old with the new

- 1** Only renovate what is necessary.
- 2** Choose timeless pieces as your base. Following a trend can be expensive to update when you tire of your dining chair.
- 3** Only buy things you truly love, including children's toys. Invest wisely with pieces the little ones will love to play with, but are beautiful, too.
- 4** Books, books, books. Fill every nook and cranny with books!
- 5** Embrace the old. A traditional home should be filled with unusual finds.



**MASTER BEDROOM (opposite, top)** Rebecca crafted this tassel garland that hangs above the bed.  
**BATHROOM (opposite, bottom)** A black-and-white palette marks this contemporary, practical zone. The curves of the Paco Jaanson 'Signature Flo' basin contrast with the gridded lines of the black matt and white gloss wall tiles. **DECK** Rebecca takes in the picturesque vista of the Derwent River from the expansive deck. The timber stool was made by Rodney's uncle out of Huon pine.

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## *lessons learnt*

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**“WE SHOULD’VE INTEGRATED AN OUTDOOR KITCHEN... IT WOULD’VE BEEN PERFECT AS WE COOK ON THE BARBECUE EVERY NIGHT”** REBECCA, OWNER

**Biggest mistake:** “I’m shocked that we gave this area such little thought as the space is huge – it wasn’t on our radar and we regret that.”

**Biggest cost:** “The cost of soft furnishings once it’s all finished. The rugs, sofas, pillows, window furnishings and art are a part of the budget that I didn’t account for. Well, my taste and budget don’t always see eye-to-eye! For now, we’ve settled on some affordable yet stylish furniture.”







# quick *fix*

A swift seven-week reno put the pressure on this couple to make a '70s villa less 'Liberace' and more family home

WORDS **JOANNE HAWKINS** STYLING **RACHEL VIGOR** PHOTOGRAPHY **DEREK SWALWELL**

ARTWORK: (OPPOSITE) RAMA-JAARA THE ROYAL SHEPHERDESS BY JACQUI STOCKDALE, JACQUI STOCKDALE.COM, CUSHION, THE FAMILY LOVE TREE, THEFAMILYLOVETREE.COM.AU



## cheat sheet

**Who lives here?** Katie Graham, creator and managing director of homewares store The Family Love Tree ([thefamilylovetree.com.au](http://thefamilylovetree.com.au)); husband Jason Byrne, who runs film production brand Guilty ([guiltycontent.com](http://guiltycontent.com)); daughter Billee, 11; and sons Angus, 8 and Wolfe, 5; plus Cherry Pie the cat.

**Style of house:** A spacious 1970s flat-roofed villa that was gutted and renovated in seven weeks.

The reno cost \$150k for the house and \$100k for the pool.

**LIVING AREA** Katie scored her vintage leather 'Falcon' chairs by Sigurd Ressel and her 'Spanish' chairs by Børge Mogensen from eBay. "I bought two 'Falcon' chairs from a Danish woman and, when I went to pick them up, she told me she had two more plus the two Mogensen chairs, so I bought them all!" **FAMILY ROOM (opposite)** Incredible 'Leopard Palm' wallpaper from These Walls offers a striking backdrop for ceramic vases by Gunda and Have You Met Miss Jones.





**ENTRY (above)** Katie, pictured with children Angus, Wolfe and Billee, found the luxe chandelier by Curtis Jere on website 1stdibs. “I struck gold with that one,” says Katie. **LIVING AREA (right)** Lush views of and easy access to the outdoor courtyard make this space a favourite with the family. They often eat at the round ‘Caribbean’ dining table, which comes from Katie’s furniture and lifestyle store The Family Love Tree. Katie commissioned Peter Haas to make the curtains, after learning that he made the home’s original drapes. **KITCHEN (opposite)** Orla Kiely wallpaper sits behind glass for a retro-fun splashback. The kitchen is separate to the living and dining areas, but Katie decided against knocking down walls to make the room open-plan.



**T**hree years ago, Katie and her husband Jason faced a dilemma. Although they loved their Elsternwick mid-century home – designed by celebrated Melbourne modernist architect Dr Ernest Fooks and featured on interior blogs worldwide – it was in need of a renovation.

Should they invest the money needed to knock out walls – “I just didn’t love the layout,” says Katie – build a second bathroom, and reconfigure the interior to better suit the couple and their three growing children? Or look for another house that required less work? After much thought, they plumped for the latter. “It was the more cost-effective option,” says Katie, a former fashion stylist and costume designer who now runs homewares store The Family Love Tree.


Not that the Caulfield house they eventually bought bore any resemblance to the stylish space the family now call home. In fairly original condition, with a marble entrance, patterned wallpaper and gold chandeliers, the 1970s single-level brick bungalow was “quite Liberace,” says Katie with a laugh. “We needed to tone it down.”

But the couple could see the potential behind the dated glitz and, after a cosmetic renovation that took just seven weeks, have now created the home of their dreams. “When I walk through the front door, I feel a sense of comfort because I am in my space, one I’ve created for me and my family,” says Katie. **Katie, what attracted you to this house?** We love mid-century design and were originally looking for another Ernest Fooks house – nearly buying one around the corner. Then we found this house and, though it’s built in 1972, it still has the ‘60s style we like. I loved the flat roof and the high ceilings, its ‘squareness’ and all the light that flooded in. It also had a pool and a great layout that didn’t need any structural changes.

**In your previous house, you kept a lot of original features such as the kitchen’s yellow tiles. Did you preserve anything here?** Unfortunately, the kitchen in this house didn’t have the same appeal, it was electric blue and white, so it all had to go!

ARTWORK: (LEFT) BIG BOY BY ABBEY MCCULLOCH.COM.AU, (CENTRE AND OPPOSITE) WEAVINGS BY MARYANNE MOODIE, MARYANNE MOODIE.COM, BAR STOOLS, THE FAMILY LOVE TREE, THEFAMILYLOVETREE.COM.AU





“I used teal, olive green  
and tobacco tones,  
mixed with a bit of gold”

KATIE GRAHAM, OWNER



## lessons learnt

**“If I do it again, I’ll employ a builder to manage the whole build”** KATIE GRAHAM, OWNER

**Biggest mistake:** “Choosing the wrong tradesmen. As an owner-builder, I sourced my own tradies, but a couple weren’t up to scratch. If I ever do it again, I’ll employ a builder to manage the whole build: he would have his own team of tradies and would have to fix something if it went wrong.”

**Best surprise:** “I was told using wallpaper under a glass splashback was impossible but, after a lot of perseverance, we found a fantastic glass installer who was able to fit glass over the wallpaper without compromising the print. I love it – it’s so different.”

**What I regret:** “We had trouble sealing the kitchen and bathroom tiles after they’d been laid, as the black grout stained some white areas. They needed to be cleaned and then resealed. The first attempt of sealing them didn’t work, so they were scrubbed and cleaned again, before being sealed correctly.”



### great value

Polishing the original parquet floor proved more cost-effective than installing new flooring.





The wallpaper was also in very bad condition. But we've kept the beautiful parquetry floors, some of the original light fittings, the marble entry and most of the timber cabinetry, which is just stunning. I'd love to know who the cabinetmaker was.

**Why did you decide to renovate in seven weeks?** We were keen to avoid the double-cheese sandwich of two mortgages, and wanted to be able to move straight from our previous house into this one. But while I enjoyed the creative side of pulling the house together – I find aesthetic decisions easy – dealing with tradesmen and getting it done quickly was quite stressful. If we ever did it again, I wouldn't do it in such a short time. It was like an episode of *The Block* – I wouldn't recommend it!

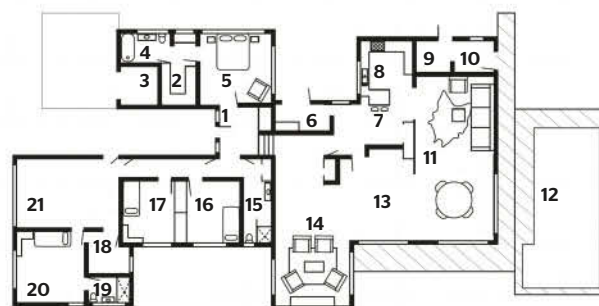
**What were your aims when it came to the interior?** The parquetry floors and the view of the gardens from every room dictated the colour palette to an extent. I wanted to make it warm and earthy, so I used teal, olive green and tobacco tones, mixed with a bit of gold. We have a lot of brightly coloured art, so I kept everything tonal so it pops out.

**How would you describe your aesthetic?** It's fairly eclectic; I like mixing old and new things. I don't really look at interiors magazines or blogs for inspiration – I'd much rather do my own thing. I love collecting art, vintage furniture and pottery.

**Did you have to balance your love of design with the need to create a child-friendly home?** Not really. It's still a very cosy home and there's nothing here that is too precious that they can't touch. The kids also have their 'wing' with bedrooms and a second living area which is colourful and family friendly.

**What's your favourite thing to do in the house?** We're all very busy during the week, so at weekends we like to relax at home, either as a family or with friends. We often have big Sunday lunches and pool parties in the summer. We're very house proud and welcome friends and family into our home. **10**

**FAMILY ROOM (opposite)** The 'Lucky' buffet from Katie's store exhibits the same colour-happy take on decorating as seen throughout the home. **BILLEE'S BEDROOM (this page, left)** Orla Kiely's 'Giant Rhododendron' wallpaper makes a bold impression. The timber shelf and desk came with the house, though Katie and Jason had it sanded and restained. **ENTRY AND MASTER BEDROOM (this page, above)** A bright wall highlights the 'Petal' bedhead from The Family Love Tree. "I just love teal, it's my favourite colour," says Katie, who chose the vibrant tone for the front door, too.



**GROUND FLOOR**

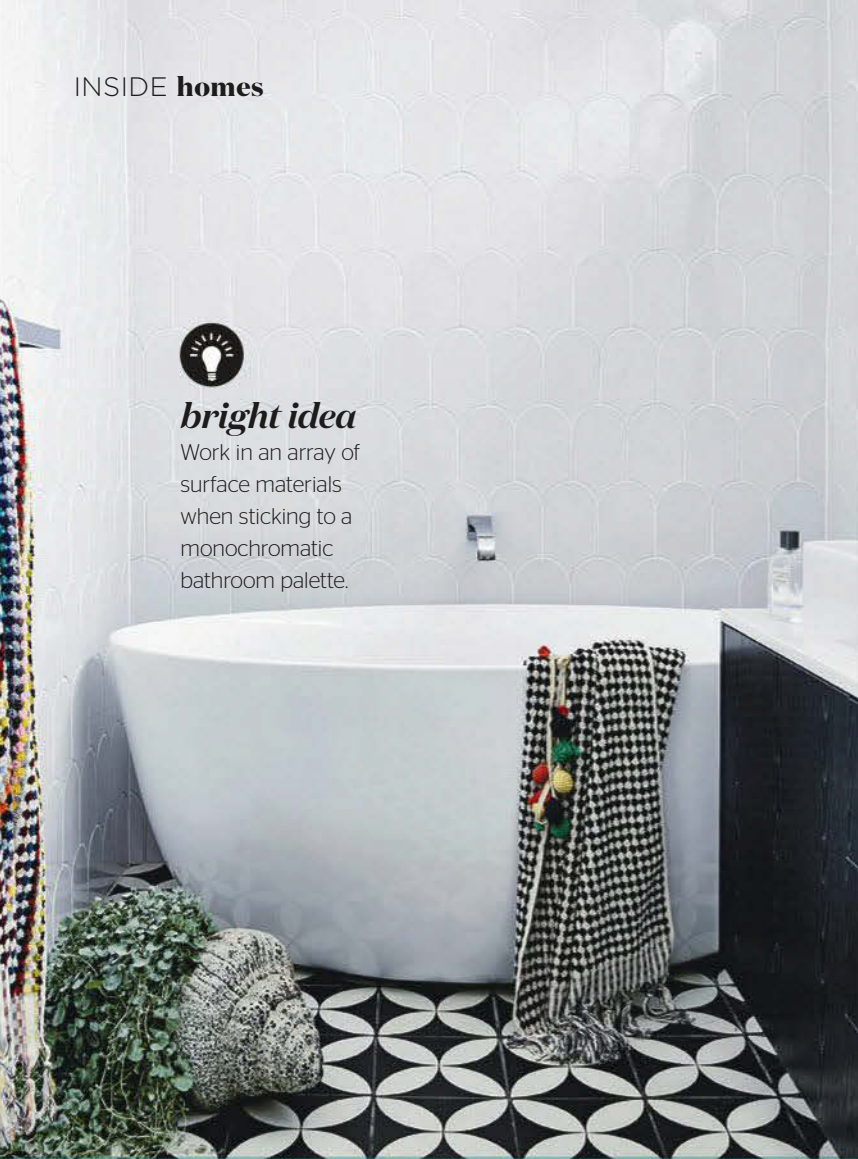
- |                   |                   |                      |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Entry          | 8. Kitchen        | 15. Bathroom         |
| 2. Walk-in robe   | 9. Storage        | 16. Wolfe's bedroom  |
| 3. Storage        | 10. Sauna         | 17. Angus's bedroom  |
| 4. Ensuite        | 11. Family room   | 18. Study            |
| 5. Master bedroom | 12. Swimming pool | 19. Ensuite          |
| 6. Laundry        | 13. Dining area   | 20. Billee's bedroom |
| 7. Breakfast bar  | 14. Living area   | 21. Rumpus room      |





### bright idea

Work in an array of surface materials when sticking to a monochromatic bathroom palette.



**ENSUITE (above)** "This room needed a lot of work because it previously had a raised bath that was built in, so we needed to pour a concrete floor and level it," says Katie. "It was a pretty poky space so my main focus was to open it up and make it look more spacious." **OUTDOORS (opposite)** Katie chose a patchwork of aqua, grey and stone-coloured Anston pavers after being inspired by a visit to landscaper Phillip Withers' exhibit at the 2014 Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show. "They blend in with the deck's colour, which has started to fade to a silvery grey colour," says Katie.

### pattern play



'Luna Hill' **tile**, \$140/sqm, Pentland Street Trading Co., pentlandstreet.com.



'Leopard Palm' **wallpaper**, \$190/10m roll, These Walls, thesewalls.com.au.



'Versailles' oak parquet **flooring panel** (80 x 80cm), \$129.95, Schots Home Emporium, schots.com.au.



"Playing with patterns you love will help you create a unique home, but use a common tone so there's method to the madness"

JOSEPH GARDNER, MARKET EDITOR

### 3 GREAT FINDS

1

'Piper' hand-blown glass **pendant light** in Rose, \$830, Jardan, jardan.com.au.



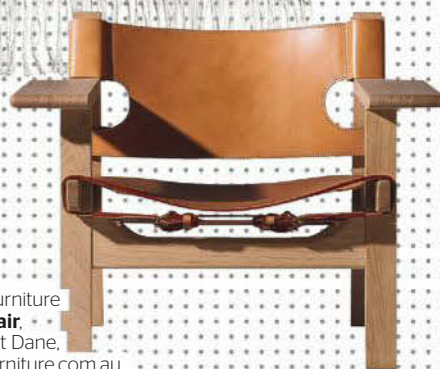
2

Studio Mae Engelgeer 'Yeah' wool **rug**, \$3100, Designstuff, designstuff.com.au.



3

Fredericia Furniture 'Spanish' **chair**, \$6950, Great Dane, greatdanefurniture.com.au.



### paint palette



'Clean & Protect' interior low sheen **paint** in Tempted Teal, \$59.90/4L, British Paints, 132 525. 'Interior Expressions' low sheen **paint** in Intrigue, \$38.95/1L, Haymes Paint, 1800 033 431.





## timeline

2013

**October** Katie and Jason beat four other interested parties to buy the house at auction. They immediately start drawing up plans for a cosmetic renovation.

2014

**January** House settles. In two days, the interior is gutted, with all carpets, bathroom, kitchen and laundry fittings, tiles, curtains and wallpaper removed. New cabinetry and tiles are installed in the kitchen, bathroom, ensuite

and laundry. Interior is painted throughout. Parquet flooring is polished. New floor tiles are laid in the kitchen and bathrooms. New carpets are installed in bedrooms. **February** Trees are removed around pool and bamboo is

planted. Some light fittings in the house are replaced. The family moves in. **March** Family bathroom and splashback are done. **October** The pool area is renovated and the pool is retiled, the deck is built and the pavers are laid.

2015

**January** Landscaping in the garden is finished. **February** A feature wall is painted black in the living area and wallpaper hung in family room. External bathroom is converted into a poolside sauna.



# winter cool

Take inspiration from a home in the Italian Alps that works effortlessly with its beautiful snow-capped surrounds

WORDS & PRODUCTION **KERSTIN ROSE** PHOTOGRAPHY **CHRISTIAN SCHAULIN**



## cheat sheet

**Who lives here:** Sculptor and furniture maker Othmar Prenner; his partner Ingrid, a wood-turner; and their cat.

**Style of house:** A restored two-bedroom 14th-century farmhouse located in Vinschgau on Italy's northern border in the Tyrolean Alps. A new addition to the house was completed in 2010.



## 1 | picture perfect

Othmar Prenner has a connection with this house that stretches back to his childhood. Formerly owned by his uncle, he purchased the dilapidated dwelling as a holiday home, but the project grew as Othmar fell back in love with the area and he enlisted his carpenter brother Artur to work on it. "When we started, we didn't know what the place would eventually look like," says Othmar. The pair ended up adding a new gable-ended building to the farmhouse's original shell.







## 2 | working it out

The entire kitchen was designed and built by Othmar from larch wood, the trees that also surround the home. He now splits his time between his Munich home and this idyllic escape – he has a workspace above the kitchen overlooking the valley. The window nook allows for spectacular views of the Endkopf mountain. “I love this valley; it’s one of the most unspoilt in the Vinschgau area,” says Othmar. The patterned timber dining chairs were also made by Othmar.

“When the new part of the house became the living area, the entry suddenly looked spacious”

OTHMAR PRENNER, OWNER





### 3 | a cut above

Old meets new in the hallway, which was once a storeroom. The floor is made of marble cut in the village of Laas, a mere 30 kilometres away. "I really like the combination of old architecture with its history and the new architecture, which brings brightness and space," says Othmar.

### 4 | walk on air

Othmar (pictured, above left) and his brother Artur converted the storeroom into an open stairwell that houses two wooden paths. On one of these, Othmar set up his office and the other connects the kitchen and dining area with the living area. "It was a spontaneous idea," explains Othmar. "I enjoyed walking across the planks, so much when we were rebuilding the place that I incorporated them into the design of the house."





Different local timbers feature throughout the house, including larch, pine and elm (which is used for the bed in the master bedroom). By leaving them unstained, Othmar allows each wood type to display its individual charm and character.



Every corner showcases elements of Othmar's creativity, including his painting of a woman, and the 'Black Bowles' bowls by his brand Dinge & Ursachen, which are available from Spence & Lyda.

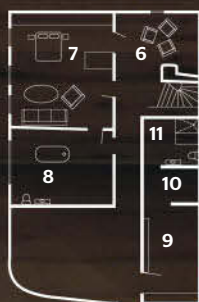




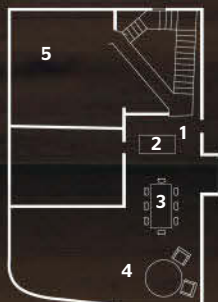
## 5 | all the right moves

The original house was tiny – just a living room, storeroom and hayloft. The new master bedroom is situated where the former living space once was. Most of the furniture in this zone was also designed by Othmar, including his 'Move' modular system. The system is also used in the kitchen and includes drawers which, with the help of magnets and neoprene strips, allows individual elements to be stacked securely on top of each other. "I like pieces of furniture that stand like sculptures in the room," says Othmar.

FIRST FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR



1. Entry
2. Kitchen
3. Dining area
4. Living area
5. Living area
6. Sitting area
7. Master bedroom
8. Bathroom
9. Study
10. Guest bedroom
11. Bathroom



**“I really like the combination of old architecture with its history and the new architecture that brings brightness and space”**

OTHMAR PRENNER, OWNER



## 6 | practical magic

Othmar considers himself “a tinkerer”. Whether he’s designing a bowl, a chair or even a bathroom (as in this space), everything must be functional. “You won’t find a single place in the entire house where wood and plaster don’t join smoothly and seamlessly,” he says, not without pride. The square lines of the handcrafted timber bath and vanity are matched with fittings from Vola and offset with the sculptural ‘Lamino’ chair by Yngve Ekström.





## 7 | rock solid

Echoes of the original farmhouse can be seen in the garden from the lower levels of the new addition, creating a natural frame to the mountain views. The wire base of an Eames side chair contrasts with the ribbons of timber on the walls, floors and ceiling. The artwork is another creation by Othmar. *For info on Othmar's work, visit [dingeundursachen.de](http://dingeundursachen.de). Othmar's work is available through Spence & Lyda; visit [spenceandlyda.com.au](http://spenceandlyda.com.au).*

## postcard from Italy

**My favourite local restaurant is...** Ristorante Pizzeria Lampl, via Dr Heinrich Flora 4, 39024 Malles, +39 0473 831085, plus Apollonia, ([restaurant-apollonia.it](http://restaurant-apollonia.it)) in the neighbouring town of Sirmiano.

**My must-visit shopping destination is...** The small local markets to buy produce direct from local farmers.

'5 GREAT FINDS' PRODUCT SOURCING: JOSEPH GARDNER

## INSIDE overseas inspiration

### 5 GREAT FINDS

1

Mohair **blanket**, \$145, Jordan, [jordan.com.au](http://jordan.com.au).

2

Focus 'Gyrofocus' **hanging fireplace**, \$18,100, Oblica, [oblica.com.au](http://oblica.com.au).

3

Knoll 'Womb' **chair**, from \$7590, and **ottoman**, from \$2321, Dedecce, [dedecce.com](http://dedecce.com).



4

Hem 'Bowling' lacquered ash **bowls**, \$346/assorted set of 3, District, [district.com.au](http://district.com.au).



**"Lift a wintry home with cosy textures and natural tones – an open fire helps, too!"**

JOSEPH GARDNER, MARKET EDITOR

5

'Bath Box' timber **bathtub**, \$7000, Wood & Water, [woodandwater.com.au](http://woodandwater.com.au).







# renovation 101 inner-city terrace

A couple needs help modernising the dated 1970s kitchen at the rear of their partially restored terrace

WORDS LYNNE TESTONI PHOTOGRAPHY NIGEL LOUGH



## WHAT NEEDS TO GO

Here's what Nick and Marcus don't like about their home at the moment

- ☒ the tired 1970s decor, especially in the kitchen
- ☒ the pot-belly stove
- ☒ the lack of "flow-through" from the kitchen/utility area to the rear courtyard
- ☒ the awkward positioning of the bathroom





The master bedroom is one of the spaces that has been given a refresh by Nick and Marcus.

## CHEAT SHEET

**Who lives here:** Nick Smith, publisher at NewsLifeMedia, and his partner Marcus Ross, national manager of Community Connect at Clayton Utz.

**Style of house:** A two-storey Victorian terrace in Sydney's Camperdown.

**How long have they lived here?** About two years.

### the story so far

Nick and Marcus bought their two-storey terrace with a view to renovate. While solid in structure, the house had been redecorated in the '70s in a traditional manner – the exterior was cream and mission brown. "Inside, it was like someone had put Laura Ashley in a wood chipper and sprayed her all over the walls!" says Nick. Every room had wallpaper upon wallpaper, and the previous owners were overzealous with an ornate frieze. There were a lot of 'decorative elements' added on.

They stripped back the terrace to basics, taking on the restoration of the front rooms and garden, leaving time to live with the house and decide on the approach to the back exterior and extension. A year on from completing that initial stage, they feel it's time to get cracking.

### what's not working?

While the formal lounge and dining room have such large proportions, the dingy, dark kitchen and bathroom don't work at all. The kitchen also has a pot-belly stove, which Nick hates, so that's got to go. Nick and Marcus would like to improve the access to the rear of the house so the dining room flows into a great entertainer's kitchen and living area, through to a courtyard. "The sun from the backyard is beautiful, but doesn't light up the kitchen, as it's so closed off," says Nick.

### the most important thing they need?

To work out the kitchen and services on the ground floor and open the back of the terrace to the outdoors. A bathroom on the first level would be great.

### what would be a nice bonus?

Going up another level to create a lovely bedroom area that could catch views of the city, though that would probably break the budget.



## THE REALTOR

**Michael Harris**

Director, Raine & Horne  
Newtown, rhnewtown.com.au

### the area

Camperdown is right in the sweet spot of the Sydney real-estate market at the moment, with prices consistently rising over the past two years. Located less than

5km from the centre of the CBD, the area has boomed, and now attracts young families as well as professional couples. According to Michael Harris, people look to buy into the area for "lifestyle choices and proximity to the city". He estimates Nick and Marcus's home to be worth about \$1.4 million in its existing condition.

### the checklist

"People are looking for good-sized living areas, both formal and casual, off-street parking and some outdoor space," says Michael. "They want two bathrooms and, ideally, would like to be able to see the children playing in the courtyard from the kitchen." Other bonus points for buyers, according to Michael, are lots of natural light and neutral decor.

### the opportunity

If Nick and Marcus renovate the way they are planning to, Michael has good and bad news for them. Their home could be worth as much as \$1.8 million with the addition of a master suite and open-plan kitchen/living area. However, they could be over-capitalising if they spend more than \$400k and expect to recoup their costs. Michael also suggests they include car access, as it's a strong selling point in the area.



## THE BUDGET

# \$500k

This generous budget would mean that Nick and Marcus could get their wishlist ticked off, including a possible third storey, which would give them a master suite, plus views back to the city. However, a more modest budget of \$400k might stop them from over-capitalising.





## THE ARCHITECT

**Andrew Benn**  
Director, Benn + Penna  
Architecture,  
bennandpenna.com

### making it work

As an architect working in the inner suburbs of Sydney, Andrew is familiar with the problems faced by Nick and

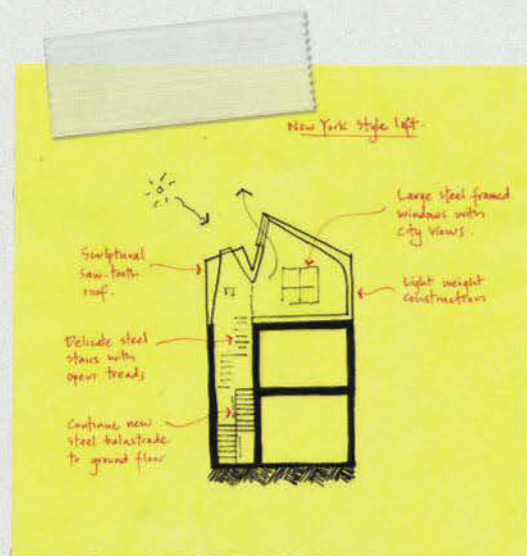
Marcus. There are common issues with most original terraces – small utility rooms (kitchen/bathroom/laundry) located at the rear of buildings, few casual living spaces and a lack of light are top of the list. He feels the best solution is to pick a point – perhaps just after the formal front rooms – and basically slice off the back of the house and create an addition designed to meet the couple's wishlist.

### take it to the next level

Andrew suggests Nick and Marcus look at creating a New York loft-style extension (see his rough sketch below), featuring exposed steel frames and a modern staircase – in the same position as the existing one – with open treads to allow more light to stream down through the house. This would include a new third floor for a master suite, which would afford beautiful city views. The height of the existing parapet and the neighbouring buildings means they should be able to go up a level without altering the streetscape, so he considers it probable that the couple would have no difficulties with the local council.

### relocation, relocation

Andrew agrees with Nick that it should be possible to relocate the bathroom to the first level and keep a small powder room on the ground floor behind the stairs. On looking at the utility areas, Andrew suggests removing the wall between the dining space and kitchen to open it up, and including a wall of joinery from the stairwell, continuing out the back to a new open-plan kitchen. This space could also incorporate the laundry behind closed cabinets. Andrew recommends using integrated appliances in the new kitchen for a streamlined look.



**Andrew's extension plan** Nick and Marcus's home luckily has a high parapet, which means they stand in good stead to create a third level. Andrew advises they create a loft-style master suite that will enhance light and add serious value.



## THE STYLIST

**Lisa Koehler**  
ISCD educator, stylist  
and interior decorator

### choosing surfaces

Lisa feels it's important to keep key considerations in mind when designing a new kitchen. After discussions with Marcus and Nick, and a look at their

decorating style, she feels a 'modern luxe' look is the way to go. "I would apply smooth, hard and reflective surfaces, such as mirror, marble, and black or white gloss finishes," she says. "Mirror works really well for kickboards (the space between the cupboards and the floor), to create a floating-cabinet illusion. Using shiny or reflective surfaces also increases the apparent size of a small room."

### eye on the details

When selecting a benchtop and other kitchen surfaces, Lisa advises thinking about how you intend to use the kitchen. Nick and Marcus are keen to have an entertainer's kitchen with a sophisticated look. "It's all in the details," says Lisa, who suggests a beautiful honed-marble benchtop, along with touches such as a burnished-brass tap and metallic accessories. The marble is expensive, but easy-care, while a mix of metals in the accessories will add a hit of bling in an otherwise neutral space. "Don't be afraid to mix metals," says Lisa, "it keeps things interesting – you don't always want everything to match."

Lisa also recommends adding freestanding furniture to the kitchen, taking inspiration from the Biedermeier-style pieces in the couple's main bedroom and hall. "A beautiful drinks trolley or cocktail cabinet would draw in contrast and add personality," she says.

*"Don't be afraid to mix metals... you don't always want everything to match!"*







## THE BUILDER

**Wayd Munro**  
Focusbuild,  
focusbuild.com.au

### unlocking potential

Wayd is impressed with the scale and potential of Nick and Marcus's home. He feels the core building is structurally sound and would be able to handle

the changes suggested. He doesn't see many difficulties involved in adding a third storey. Considering the existing parapet at the front is already very high, he says you'd essentially be building into the existing roof space. "You could make an amazing master suite up there," he says.

### insulation renovation

Wayd says one of the most important considerations when adding a room upstairs is insulating the room's ceiling effectively. He argues that when people add an extra floor, they often sacrifice roof space to gain more room height, and then fail to insulate the ceiling to account for the reduction or loss of airspace in the roof. "The extra room that's been added becomes unbearably hot during the summer months," he says. A good insulation system is a must. Wayd prefers to reintroduce an air gap where possible to help with the heat transfer from the roof to the ceiling during summer.

### plus parking

Considering realtor Michael's advice about car access adding value, Wayd suggests that a courtyard could be constructed with a view to become parking. Bricks or pavers could be used, or if they're after greenery, plastic or concrete pavers could be incorporated, which allow grass to grow, but can withstand the weight of a car.



## APPLIANCE SPECIALIST

**Mark Elmore**  
General manager of design integration, Fisher & Paykel,  
fisherpaykel.com.au

### positive integration

On assessing their situation and listening to Andrew's ideas, Fisher &

Paykel's appliance expert Mark says that the kitchen would benefit from integrated appliances to achieve a streamlined look, and allow the kitchen cabinetry to blend in with the storage solutions along the north-facing wall. This would have the added benefit of hiding the large appliances, such as the fridge and dishwasher, so the kitchen has an organised feel.

### in need of an update

He notes that Nick and Marcus are keen to update all the kitchen appliances – they have been putting off major purchases until they make decisions on the renovation as a whole. Most of the appliances were there when they purchased the house. Nick particularly dislikes the pot-belly stove, which the couple has never used. The dated cooktop is awkwardly placed and the home didn't have a dishwasher at all when they bought it. Nick picked up a small second-hand dishwasher on eBay as a quick fix, while they discussed more permanent options.

### palette match

Mark thought that Lisa's palette of black with a hint of glitz would suit the latest streamlined glass and stainless-steel built-in ovens. He recommended a pyrolytic self-clean function, which is also practical for time-poor homeowners, such as Nick and Marcus ("who wants to waste time cleaning an oven?" says Nick). A high-end gas cooktop in ceramic and toughened glass would work well with a marble benchtop and suit the couple, who love entertaining.

Mark also suggested a double dishdrawer unit as a flexible option for dishwashing. This means that one drawer could be run frequently midweek when it was just Nick and Marcus at home, but they would be able to fill it to capacity by using both drawers if they had a dinner party on the weekend.



**Mark's Fisher & Paykel suggestions:**  
'OB60SL1DEPX1' 60cm pyrolytic built-in oven, \$2649. 'DD90ST12 DishDrawer' 90cm dishwasher, \$1699. Both Fisher & Paykel, fisherpaykel.com.au.

\*ADVICE PROVIDED IS OF A GENERAL NATURE AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS A STARTING POINT. LOOK INTO YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS BEFORE STARTING ON ANY RENOVATION WORK. PHOTOGRAPHY: (PORTRAITS) NIGEL LOUGH



1. 'Phasmida 7 Branch' 24ct gold-plated light, from \$7270, Christopher Boots, christopherboots.com
2. Honed marble surface in Grigio Argento, \$137.50/sqm, Surface Gallery, surfacegallery.com.au
3. Kelly Wearstler 'Little Head Trip' marble sculpture, \$875, Becker Minty, beckerminty.com
4. 'Arq' sink mixer in Burnished Brass, \$515, Rogerseller, rogerseller.com.au
5. Kelly Wearstler 'Salone' bronze tray, \$3475, Becker Minty, as before
6. Blakeborough & King 'Hermes' brass-framed mirror, \$2750, Criteria, criteria-collection.com.au
7. Kelly Wearstler 'Mini Chain Link' sculpture, \$1125, Becker Minty, as before
8. Kelly Wearstler 'Studded' vase in Gunmetal, \$1085, Becker Minty, as before
9. 'Mutina Azulej 80084' porcelain tiles (200 x 200 mm), \$152.35/sqm, Academy Tiles, academytiles.com.au



# renovation 101

## kitchen top 10

What do you need to think about before you start your kitchen?



### 1 What is the key to great design?

Create the kitchen that works best for the way you live. The days of the traditional 'work triangle' with fridge/stove/sink in an efficient triangular configuration are gone. Today the kitchen is used for a variety of purposes - cooking, entertaining, homework, home office - and the layout should reflect that. Appliances should be arranged accordingly, which may mean two smaller dishwashers not necessarily co-located.

### 2 How hi-tech should a family go with appliances?

Just as hi-tech as you feel comfortable with. Technology in appliances provides an ever-increasing range of benefits, from energy savings to improved performance and efficiency, to a reduced work load.

For example, pyrolytic cleaning is becoming increasingly popular as consumers appreciate having the hard, dirty and smelly work taken out of oven cleaning. Now, one push of the button and a wipe down and you're done.

Great family-driven tech advances include dishwashers with eco-wash settings, so this should keep frequent users of the appliance happy. Some

new fridges include humidity control options to help fresh food last longer and, conversely, holiday modes to save consumption when the home is empty. When it comes to ovens, you can now choose the perfect setting for the optimum result for a dish and intuitive controls that allow for precise cooking.

### 3 Is there an 'on-trend' colour I should choose?

Naturals are the colours *du jour*. From wood veneers and rough timbers to raw concrete in muted tones (such as stone or slate that echo the natural landscape), people are embracing all things organic and that's reflected in popular kitchen colour palettes.

### 4 Are French-door fridges best for big families, or is the standard freezer-at-the-bottom model a better choice?

A French-door model will give you more space without necessarily reducing the freezer room below. It will also accommodate larger platters for entertaining large numbers of people. Another option to consider for the bigger family is a side-by-side model, which gives equal fridge-freezer space.

### 5 Is integrated always better?

Not necessarily. It's a cleaner look, but it really depends on personal preference. Some people aren't fussed about hiding everything away. Architects, kitchen designers and their customers tell us that people who prefer to have their appliances on display prefer a seamless, cohesive look. That's why Fisher & Paykel's kitchen appliances are all deliberately designed to match, from handles and dials to finishes and dimensions.



**sleek system** Pull-out pantry options are fantastic for those short on space, such as in this kitchen by Studio Mint. The look is well suited to kitchens that feature integrated appliances.





## Mark Elmore from Fisher & Paykel shares his expert advice



### 6 | What are the top three trends in kitchens at the moment?

A movement away from the traditional 'work triangle', with appliances distributed in ways that uniquely suit the way the owners live.

Drawers. We're storing everything in drawers, from cookware to dinner plates, and you'll even see this in appliance design.

Integrated finishes that make a kitchen feel more part of the extended living room. It's less about sectioning off the kitchen than incorporating the lines into a broader space. Renovators are looking for appliances that can be hidden behind cabinetry, and then those that can't – such as ovens and cooktops need to have a coordinated aesthetic.

### 7 | Does that mean families are buying multiple fridges?

Yes. For larger households, more than one fridge accommodates the growing desire to have refreshments on hand in entertaining areas – from a games room or home theatre to the increasingly ubiquitous outdoor entertaining zone.

### 8 | How much should I spend on kitchen appliances?

There's no prescribed hard-and-fast rule, but on average you should allow around 20 per cent of your overall budget for appliances.

### 9 | What are the pros and cons of induction vs gas?

**Gas:** The pro is that gas gives people close control over cooking temperature. There's a visual element to gas cooktops that people love; they like being able to see how high and low the gas is. The con: a naked flame can be dangerous for young children.

**Induction:** On the pro side, induction also gives extremely good temperature control. The hotplates remain cool to touch immediately prior and post-cooking, so there is less chance of accidental burns, and the surface space can double as a preparation area when not in use. The cool surface also helps to make these cooktops very easy to clean. But the con is that you may have to invest in the right cookware (you can tell if it's induction compatible by seeing if a magnet sticks to the base). Having said that, the 'right' cookware doesn't have to be expensive.

### 10 | Is the butler's pantry still number one on everyone's list?

It may not be number one on *everyone's* list but it's certainly very desirable for those people whose budget and space allow for it. A butler's pantry hides a multitude of sins and is the perfect place to store glass or plateware that's not used every day, or to stack and clean the dirty dishes out of sight mid-dinner party. For many, a butler's pantry is the ultimate kitchen luxury.

**For more advice from Mark Elmore on purchasing appliances, go to [fisherpaykel.com/eu](http://fisherpaykel.com/eu).**







***star performer***

This kitchen features two sinks, which maximise the prep area and stop the space getting congested.

**DREAM IT. DESIGN IT. DO IT.**

# take two

Fifteen years after their first renovation, a couple decided it was time to tackle the kitchen – and laundry – all over again. This time around, it was all about accommodating a growing family of five

WORDS **CERI DAVID** PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON BUSCH**





**Who lives here?** Annabelle and Stephen; their daughter Pip, 20, sons David, 18, and George, 15; and cavoodle Jenny.

**The project:** A six-month extension and renovation to create a more spacious kitchen and relocate the laundry.

**The budget:** The total cost was around \$120k.

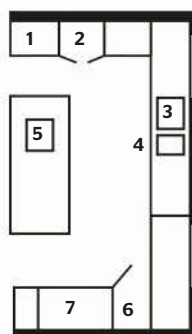


## THE TIME IS NOW

Let's be honest, there's never a convenient time to renovate. You might get your planning approval, but then you win that big account at work, and that takes up all your energy. Your builder's schedule opens up, but then the in-laws announce they're coming to stay for a month. With children in the picture, it can be even more complicated – as it was for Annabelle and Stephen. Their kitchen had been feeling cramped for several years, but it never seemed quite the right moment to sort it out. "You don't have time to think when they're little, and you don't really want to start building with young kids around," says Annabelle. "Then there are HSC years and that sort of thing."

The couple bought their Sydney house in 1998 from its original owner. The home is located in Greenwich on Sydney's North Shore, idyllic in its suburban leafiness yet not far from the city. A one-storey, two-bedroom affair built 50 years earlier, Annabelle and Stephen renovated and extended upwards before moving in, leaving them with five bedrooms, three bathrooms, open-plan living areas and a big, lush garden. As the years went by, and the children grew, the only part of the house that hadn't coped well was the kitchen.

In 2013, with the big high-school exams over for their daughter Pip and a year before David tackled the HSC, Annabelle and Stephen realised that this was their window of opportunity for a renovation and maintenance, and quickly jumped for it.



1. Cabinetry
2. Barista nook
3. Cooktop and oven
4. Sink
5. Sink in island bench
6. Pantry
7. Fridge



## DREAM IT.

### *Annabelle & Stephen's wishlist*

- + **more space** after years of tolerating a small kitchen, the main priority is storage and a pantry. "Steve's gluten intolerant, which means there are a lot more ingredients," says Annabelle. "And I like to entertain, so I have dishes and cooking equipment hidden all over the house."
- + **laundry solution** find a place for it away from the kitchen so we can maximise space
- + **barista nook** the coffee machine needs to be easily accessible, but hidden away when we're after a more streamlined look
- + **white but interesting** a crisp kitchen - provided it includes plenty of materials and space for art so it still has warmth, rather than being one-dimensional



## *the woodboard*



"I DIDN'T EXPECT TO LIKE THE WINDOWS AS MUCH AS I DO. YOU CAN SEE THE WEATHER AND WATCH THE MOON AND CLOUDS"





**bright idea**

Adding timber inlay to the cabinetry draws natural texture into this kitchen, warming the pale palette.

**DESIGN IT.**

Annabelle and Stephen's outdoor area was big enough that they could extend the house out to one side by 1500mm, making the kitchen wider. Stumped by where to put the laundry, which at the time was part of the kitchen, they called on the architect who'd devised their original reno. "He was the one who came up with 'the shed', as we call it," says Annabelle, referring to the external laundry he drew up, accessible by a short covered walkway.

Then the couple reached out to Annie Benjamin, an interior designer they'd also worked with previously. "I find it so hard to imagine the fine detail," explains Annabelle. "I think that's why you get a designer in. They're the ones who are going to look at how things open and close, and the detail of everything." Annie remembers it as a fairly broad brief. "They wanted a very functional white kitchen with more storage but because it's open to the living spaces, I didn't want it to look entirely utilitarian," she says. "It had to be pretty, too."

The functionality came by introducing the pantry Annabelle was so desperate for, and by making sure the kitchen could accommodate a family of five. "Instead of an island, we could have run the bench into the wall, which would have created more storage and made it a bit sleeker," says Annie. "But, this way, the traffic flow is much more manageable. Especially with two sinks in operation."

As for the "pretty" element, that all came down to playing with materials. "The glass cabinets, the tiled splashback, the Carrara marble — they all work to layer up the textures tonally, without any one element being a grand statement," says Annie.

**DO IT.**

Annabelle's builder brother-in-law Rocky handled the construction, starting with the laundry in the garden. When it came time to dismantle the kitchen, the family made themselves scarce. "We coincided that very messy stage with a trip to Europe to catch up with old friends," says Annabelle. "When we came back, the kitchen was just a shell with foil over the windows." From then on, they cooked with a barbecue, an electric frying pan and a microwave. "Thankfully, Rocky had plumbed in the old laundry tub that sat in a cupboard off the kitchen, so we had access to water. No-one starved," she laughs. "Even then, on Friday nights we'd have George's basketball team over for dinner — I have photos."

The floorboards Annabelle and Stephen put in when they first bought were blackbutt, recycled from the Murrumbidgee River Bridge, and they were keen to find a match. Rocky went back to Ironwood Timber ([ironwood.com.au](http://ironwood.com.au)) in Rozelle and "amazingly they still had some". All the new floorboards were laid while the family was on their European holiday, but they did have to move out for a period at the end of the renovation, to have the home's floors resanded and polished.

The end result: a kitchen that showcases clean, minimal design with plenty of room for everything to be tucked away. No more stacks upon stacks of plates. No more platters and food mixers stuffed in the cupboard under the stairs. Plus, a large preparation area. "George had four friends around the other day, and I made pizza bases and put all the ingredients out for them to arrange their own toppings," says Annabelle. "I love having all this space." **10**

For more on interior designer Annie Benjamin, call 0408 969 823.

**the best bits**

**+ laundry relocation** Just footsteps from the back door, protected by a clear awning, is the laundry, complete with even more storage, plus rails for hanging clothes. "In the past, people always had their laundries outside, and now I can see why," says Annabelle.

**+ effective light control** As the kitchen is west facing, blinds are essential. "They're electric, so there are no untidy cords. I appreciate that sort of attention to detail," says Annabelle.

**+ storage space** "The pantry door slides shut, but I always have it open as I use it all the time. I love it," says Annabelle.

**+ creating an efficient kitchen** "I didn't think two sinks were necessary, but it works really well. Someone can be making salad on the island or loading the dishwasher, while the other person cooks and uses the back sink," says Annabelle.

**+ hidden coffee nook** "Annie's solution to the coffee-machine dilemma was a cupboard with doors that open out and then slide away," says Annabelle. "Steve can have the coffee machine on display when he wants, but it can also be hidden afterwards."

**+ bonus room** Widening the kitchen meant that a storage room in the basement also increased in size. "We were going to use it as a wine cellar, but it turned out that the room was too nice for that," says Annabelle. "We've put a pool table in there, which is very popular."



BUYER'S GUIDE

# pillows & quilts

Sleep soundly with our round-up of the best bedding staples on the market

WORDS LYNNE TESTONI

From top: 'Ultracool' cotton quilt, \$229.95/double, Sheridan, [sheridan.com.au](http://sheridan.com.au). Morgan & Finch cotton quilt, \$159.95/double, Bed Bath N' Table, (03) 8888 8195. Downtime 'Deluxe' pillow, \$99.95, Adairs, [adairs.com.au](http://adairs.com.au). 'Rödtoppa Warmer' quilt, \$109/large, IKEA, [ikea.com.au](http://ikea.com.au).



**W**e all know how important it is to invest in a good mattress – after all, we spend one-third of our lives in bed. But what about all the other key elements that turn our bed into a blissful sleep zone where we can take refuge from the world? Here we share our tips on how you can achieve the sweetest dreams ever.

## pillows

Finding the right pillow is a lot like online dating – a question of trial and error as you search for the perfect match. So many choices! And such an individual decision.

When choosing a pillow, it's a good idea to start with practicality. Consider how you sleep. Is it on your back, front or side? Do you have any head or neck issues?

"Buying a pillow is very personal," says Paul Gould, group general manager at Sheridan ([sheridan.com.au](http://sheridan.com.au)). "What suits one person will not necessarily suit another. Neck position, softness, fill and sleeping position are all key when choosing your pillow."

Kate Mead, national product manager, manchester, at Harvey Norman ([harveynorman.com.au](http://harveynorman.com.au)), suggests there are a few general rules to start with. "If you sleep on your stomach, a low-profile pillow is more suitable, while a medium-density profile will suit most back sleepers," she says. "A firm and high pillow will give support to those who sleep on their sides."

Kate says that currently Harvey Norman's most popular pillows are memory foam. Made from a polyurethane, they essentially remember the shape of your head and neck, so they mould easily to your form but bounce back to their original shape. "You'll wake up with an indentation in the pillow that actually gives you support," she explains. "They are good if you need extra support in your neck, or if you have some neck and back issues."

Memory-foam pillows are best suited to side or back sleepers because of their firmness, plus they're low allergenic. Other fillings include feathers and down (ideal for stomach sleepers, as they are usually softer) or polyester. A more expensive option, feather and down pillows have a luxurious feel – and are often found in five-star hotels.

"A lot of people stay in hotels and then come into our stores and say, 'I want to sleep

on that pillow,'" says Kate. "Most of the time they turn out to be feather and down."

Polyester pillows are inexpensive and machine washable, but don't last as long as pillows with a natural filling – they will usually need to be replaced every six months or so. However, they can often be the best option for severe allergy sufferers.

**CARING FOR YOUR PILLOW** No matter the filling, all our experts agree on one thing – using a pillow protector will help keep them fresher. It's a cost-effective way to make any pillow last longer. Different pillow fillings have varied washing and airing needs, so check the care instructions on the product. Generally, artificial fillings such as foam or polyester can be machine washable, whereas feather and down pillows will need to be dry-cleaned. All pillows will benefit from regular airing, which involves leaving them outside in the sun for a few hours at least once a month.

### How many pillows?

While stacking extra pillows on top of your bed makes a luxurious decorative statement, you only need one to sleep on. If you feel you need more, you've got the wrong pillow. Store extras in baskets at the foot of your bed at night.

Beautyrest 'Recharge Classic' memory-foam pillows. \$229 each. Harvey Norman, [harveynorman.com.au](http://harveynorman.com.au).





If you love the cushy feel of down but have allergies, West Elm offers both down and down-alternative pillows. Prices start from \$59 per pillow, visit [westelm.com.au](http://westelm.com.au).

**Sensitive decision**

If you're one of the seven million Australians with allergies and two million with asthma, look for the blue butterfly symbol from The National Asthma Council of Australia to ensure products have low-allergen properties.



# quilts

Quilts can take many forms, including the more traditional printed quilted designs now often called coverlets and bedspreads by retailers. However, most people opt for filled quilts (sometimes called continental quilts or duvets) and add a decorative cover of their choice. Like pillows, quilts come in a variety of fillings and covers, to suit different climates and personal preferences.

Filling weights and thickness for quilts are generally measured in 'lofts', according to Kate Mead. "A light loft quilt is generally equivalent to one or two blankets," she says, making them suitable for summer or hot sleepers. For winter, people often look for high lofts, where the warmth is equivalent to two to three blankets.

A good choice for summer-weight quilts is cotton. As a natural fibre, it is breathable and easy to launder. Cotton is non-allergenic

as well, making it ideal for people with sensitivities as well as young children.

Cooler weather demands warmer quilts, and most people prefer a feather and down combination, which offers the warmth without the weight. Kate recommends choosing a "baffle-box construction" with feather and down quilts, where the filling is sewn into different compartments so it doesn't end up on one side or one end of the quilt. It is important to note, however, that feather and down is a more expensive option and is not recommended for allergy sufferers. If you have allergies in the family, you can opt for microfibre, which has the look and feel of down without the dust-attracting properties.

Another popular filling is wool, which is suitable for winter and summer because, as a natural fibre, it is breathable and its temperature control mechanism allows

the filling to absorb moisture and perspiration in summer, and trap heat in winter. Wool quilts come in a variety of lofts, and most are machine washable.

While many people alternate between a lightweight quilt for summer and a heavier weight for winter, a different option is to consider an all-season quilt. These come in two separate pieces with different lofts, which can be combined together with the use of ties or snaps for the cooler months.

**CARING FOR YOUR QUILT** Most quilts can be washed in a washing machine, says Jonathan Orr, vice-president of product design for West Elm ([westelm.com.au](http://westelm.com.au)). If your machine isn't large enough for a quilt, you can usually have it dry-cleaned. Paul Gould recommends regular airing of quilts on a washing line in sunshine to "naturally kill the bacteria and aerate the feathers or fill".

## perfect match

### ALLERGIES

Morgan & Finch 'Woolblend' **pillow**, \$49.95, Bed Bath N' Table, [bedbathntable.com.au](http://bedbathntable.com.au).

### EXTRA SUPPORT

Dentons 'Ultimate' memory-foam **pillow**, \$184.95, Harvey Norman, [harveynorman.com.au](http://harveynorman.com.au).

### LUXURIOUS

'Deluxe' feather and down **pillow**, \$259.95, Sheridan, [sheridan.com.au](http://sheridan.com.au).

### SIDE SLEEPER

Herington 'High And Firm' polyester **pillow**, \$39.95, Harvey Norman, as before.

### BACK SLEEPER

'I Need a Good Night's Sleep' Ultrafibre **pillow**, \$24, Tontine, [tontine.com.au](http://tontine.com.au).

### TUMMY SLEEPER

'Down-Like Support' ultrafibre soft/low profile **pillow**, \$54.95, Tontine, as before.

### LIGHT & COOL

'Cotton Select' cotton **quilt**, \$89/double, Pillow Talk, [pillowtalk.com.au](http://pillowtalk.com.au).

### WARM & COSY

Thermal wool **quilt**, \$499.95/double, MiniJumbuk, [minijumbuk.com.au](http://minijumbuk.com.au).

### TRANSEASONAL

Morgan & Finch wool **quilt**, \$179.95/double, Bed Bath N' Table, as before.

### ALLERGIES

Morgan & Finch microfibre **quilt**, \$189.95/double, Bed Bath N' Table, as before.

### FEATHER & DOWN

'Deluxe' feather and down **quilt**, \$539.95/double, Sheridan, as before.

### LUXURIOUS

'Pure Indulgence' goose down **quilt**, \$1039.95/queen, Sheridan, as before.





KITCHEN, BED & BATH NEWS

## TONE POEM

Resident GP has started stocking all the pretty things from Danish brand Hüscht Interior - think Scandi-chic homewares. Visit [residentgpg.com.au](http://residentgpg.com.au).



## TAKE A SHINE TO

Help your boots go the distance this winter with the Tangent GC small shoe-care set, \$79/assorted 4-piece set, with a horsehair brush, a cloth as well as polish and shoe grease. Visit [missglasshome.com](http://missglasshome.com).

# living in style

Treat your home (and yourself) to new appliances and accessories EDITED BY JOSEPH GARDNER & BELINDA KEMP



## sweet dreams

Ditch the daggy old flannelette jim-jams and snuggle down in these invitingly soft pyjamas by Cultiver. They come in French Navy, Duck Egg and Soft Pink for \$130/set, visit [cultiver.com](http://cultiver.com) for more info.



'Maddie' concrete vanity basin, \$495, Wood Melbourne, [woodmelbourne.com](http://woodmelbourne.com).

Victoria + Albert 'Amiata 60' basin, \$1295, Luxe By Design, [luvebydesign.com.au](http://luvebydesign.com.au).



'Rapolano' wash basin, \$1358.95, Perini Tiles, [perini.com.au](http://perini.com.au).

3 GREAT FINDS



## bathroom bling

The 'Novus Luxuria' collection by Ziporah Lifestyle features metallic threads woven through the bath sheets, \$139 each, and bath rug, \$349. Visit [ziporahlifestyle.com](http://ziporahlifestyle.com).



For more great new homewares and accessories, visit [insideout.com.au/products](http://insideout.com.au/products).





### set & watch

Is it tea for two, or three? Serve up in style with the Apparatus 'Shift' hand-thrown porcelain tea set, \$2750/assorted 17-piece set. Visit [criteriacollection.com.au](http://criteriacollection.com.au).



### tray chic

Stock up on cookware essentials with the Malle W. Trousseau 'Cooking Tray', \$2600/assorted 8-piece set. It includes a cast-iron casserole, saucepan, oven gloves and more! Visit [Spence & Lyda, spenceandlyda.com.au](http://Spence & Lyda, spenceandlyda.com.au).



**FINE DINING** Invite opulence to your next dinner party with the Cutipol '4-GOA' 24-carat gold and white cutlery, \$610/assorted 24-piece set, [francalia.com.au](http://francalia.com.au).



### tickled pink

The classic statement of an AGA cooker has been given a modern makeover with a new palette. The 'City60' cast-iron cooker features a stainless-steel hotplate cover and a two-door roasting oven. We are smitten with its Rose colour, too! \$11,500, [agashopaustralia.com](http://agashopaustralia.com).

## MY KITCHEN



**Kylie Kwong**  
chef/co-owner of Billy Kwong  
My kitchen is a place of... Chaos and deliciousness!

**In my kitchen, I couldn't live without...** My

Furi 'East/West' Santoku knife it's like a Chinese cleaver and cook's knife all in one!

**On my kitchen wishlist is...** A commercial-sized Chinese wok stall and walk-in cool room.

**The most overlooked design element of a kitchen is...** Storage cupboards crafted from materials that are impossible to clean and maintain on a daily basis. My dream kitchen cupboards would have a natural, treated wooden surface and would definitely feature a plain face for practicality.

**The three essential ingredients to the success of a kitchen design are...** Maximum bench space with a practical surface; a powerful stove and oven with a rangehood exhaust that works properly; and a good-sized sink for washing vegetables as well as all the dirty dishes at the end of a meal.

Billy Kwong, Shop 1, 28 Macleay Street, Potts Point, Sydney; call (02) 9332 3300.



### stand tall

Ex.t and Norm Architects collaborated to present a new collection of minimalist bathroom furnishings, including the 'Stand' wash basin, €1125, and bathtub, €6440. Visit [ex-t.com](http://ex-t.com) for more details.



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## 2 EXPERT ADVICE

Our panel experts guide you through the process of a reno from start to finish!

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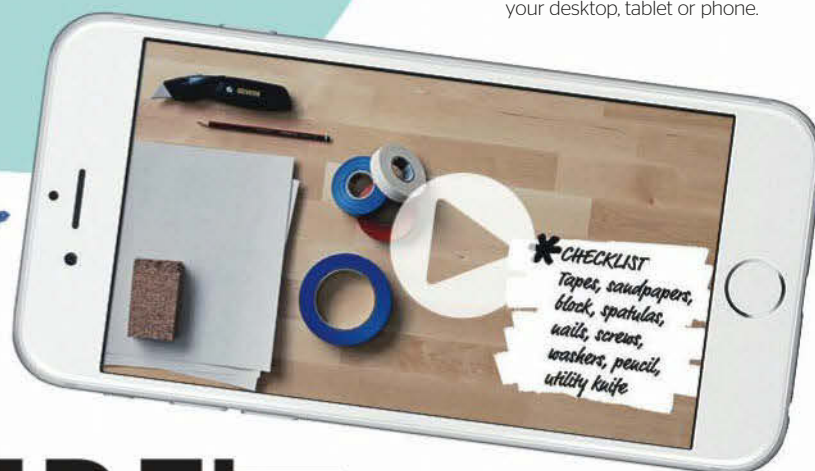
here's a  
taste of what  
you'll find...

## 3 NEW VIDEOS

Check out how-to videos with our builder Wayd Munro, plus see our Open for Inspection event tours come to life. Visit the site to view videos via your desktop, tablet or phone.

## PLUS! SHANNON

from *The Block Glasshouse* shares his must-read advice (and a few secrets!) each week **exclusively on INSIDEOUT.COM.AU**



\*CHECKLIST  
Tapes, sandpapers,  
block, spatulas,  
nails, screws,  
washers, pencil,  
utility knife

# INSIDE

insideout.com.au



# out

## **middle ground** Try moving your deck into the centre of your garden

While decks are usually most at home in the front or back ends of the garden, this space – designed by Peter Fudge ([peterfudgegardens.com.au](http://peterfudgegardens.com.au)) – shows the positives of a twist on convention. This deck sits in the middle of the outdoor area, with paths connecting it to other zones. This way, it exists as a central entertaining spot, with the rest of the green space surrounding it. Turn the page for more on the clever design of this garden.



# perfect partners

A collaboration between owner and landscape designer  
allows this home's seamless connection to the outdoors

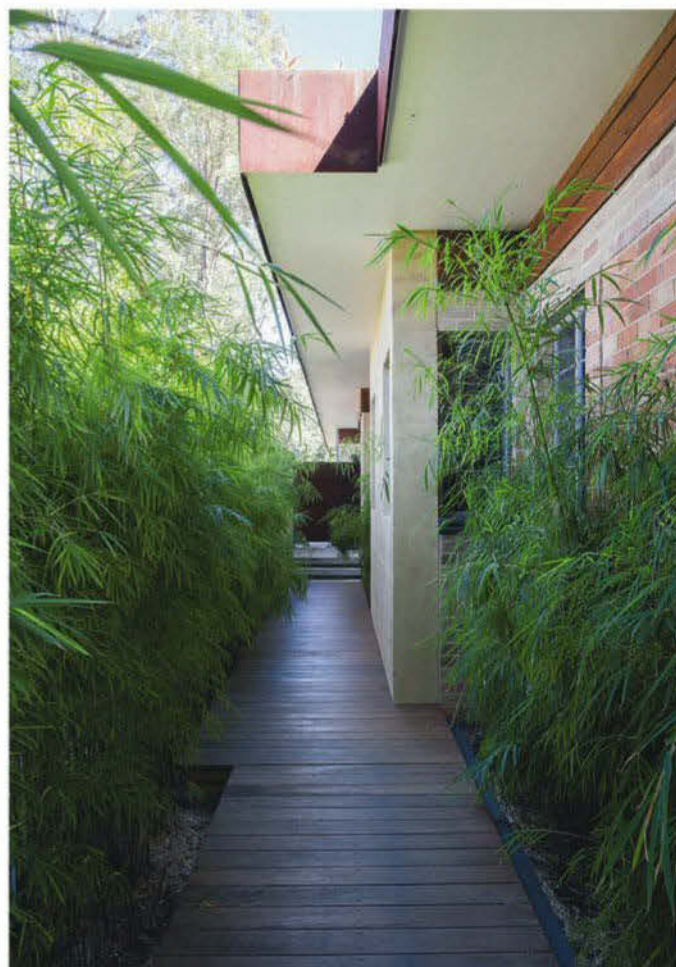
WORDS ROBIN POWELL PHOTOGRAPHY JASON BUSCH





Sarah Fitzgerald's (pictured) garden was designed by Peter Fudge to complement the house. The living area opens across the corners, as well as on the north side. These exposed corners are used as seating in the summer.





**C**ollaboration, respect and a shared sensibility are the keys to the success of this marriage of house and garden. Architect and owner Sarah Fitzgerald had designed a modern addition for her family's 1950s house that extended along the southern boundary, opening up space to the north.

The polished concrete floors, mud-brick walls, unfinished steel and glass windows, and corten steel and timber finishes called for a similarly unfussy approach to the garden. Sarah says she and her husband, Marty Shaw, had no idea what to do with the outdoor spaces, but they knew they'd found the answer when they met landscape designer Peter Fudge.

"It was so great to find someone to work with who understood what we were doing with the building," says Sarah. "We gave Peter no brief because we had no idea what we wanted, but he just got it." Peter says he wanted to create "something quite natural, using a mix of exotic and native plants to suit the casual concept of the house".

The hub of the new garden is the deck. Steel-edged glass walls slide all the way open to link this area to the spacious living area. Where once there was a struggling lawn, edged by a hedge of lilly pillly that cramped the space, there is now a timber floor backed by a green wall. "A hedge takes up 600mm of width," explains Peter, "but the green wall offers the same height – two or three metres – and is only 300mm wide. Plus, it's dramatic and eye-catching."

The canopy of a neighbouring Sydney red gum can be seen in the sky above the courtyard (**above left**). The tree is a favourite of Sarah's and she was determined to capture its form in the design of the extension. The timber deck (**above right**) is the new heart of the house and garden, with its dramatic backing of a green wall and floating barbecue (**opposite**). Bluestone pavers lead through islands of plantings to a courtyard featuring the sculptural forms of *Banksia serrata*.





“I wanted to create something quite natural, using a mix of exotic and native plants”

PETER FUDGE, LANDSCAPE DESIGNER





A shower (**left**) lets swimmers freshen up after a dip in the pool. The courtyard is seen from all sides of the house and garden. It's the 'welcome home', seen through the glass wall of the entry hall, and both the lounge room and TV room open onto its simple space. A formal pond angles around the building (**opposite**), and a bluestone paver path continues over the pond and into the TV room. The planting of banksia, variegated agave, kalanchoe and dichondra is simple and uncluttered, like the house itself.

The wall is planted with purple and variegated tradescantia, white-striped spider plants, dwarf bamboo and tri-coloured star jasmine. It's loose but organised, like a madly patterned wallpaper or giant mural.

Sarah hasn't cluttered the deck with a table, instead using light white Acapulco chairs that are easily shifted to catch sun or shade. Side tables offer surfaces for drinks and snacks when friends come over, and all of it is swiftly moved out of the way when Sarah and Marty's three children – Sophie, Eve, and Peter – mark out a handball court on the timber after school.

The inside-outside space of the deck is now Sarah's favourite part of the garden. Or maybe not. There's also a seat under the old orange tree that beckons her in summer, where she can admire the silky pink limbs of an *Angophora costata* (Sydney red gum). These iconic Sydney trees are one of Sarah's favourites. This one grows in a neighbour's house further down the street, and Sarah knew she wanted to capture a view of the tree in her design. It's now framed by the corten steel edges of the building. A courtyard lines up with the tree, dividing the TV room from the large living area. This courtyard is the first thing people see when they come through the front door, where, grabbing attention like a sculpture, is the twisted form of a *Banksia serrata*, another of Sarah's favourite trees.

"The banksias form a thread through the whole garden," explains Peter. "We put in about 15 of them, and they'll be kept pruned as loose tall cylinders. They are dotted and planted in groves throughout the

space." The rest of the planting is edited down to a shortlist chosen for texture, form and ease of care. Narrow-leaved westringia and rosemary share lavender flowers and different tones of blue-grey foliage. Plantings of *Kalanchoe* 'Silver Spoons' form a contrast with its round leaves of felt-like silver. The Lord Howe Island wedding lily, *Diets robinsonia*, offers bright green swords of foliage. Fountain grass has a soft, floating look; *Rhaphiolepis* 'Oriental Pearl' adds its leathery dark green leaves; and variegated agave gives structural form. These plants are grouped as islands in a floor of compressed granite and irregularly shaped bluestone pavers over which scramble the tiny silver leaves of *Dichondra* 'Silver Falls'.

Paths lead off from both sides of the deck. On one side is the swimming pool, which is now edged in timber and lightly screened by pillars of banksia. The other path curves past the courtyard. Here, a narrow pond angles around three sides of the building, with a bluestone paver acting as a stepping stone over the pond and into the TV room. Two small fountains in the pond murmur with a soft burble.

The garden's structure is deceptive; it looks casual, and easy, and natural, just like the house around which it folds. The tones of the plants work with the sand-coloured bricks, the rusty-red corten steel and the timber. The plants find a textural match in the surfaces of the building, and together they form an integrated indoor-outdoor space that feels as quintessentially Australian as the banksia that is the garden's motif. For more on Peter's work, visit [peterfudgegardens.com.au](http://peterfudgegardens.com.au).





**“I really appreciated that Peter didn’t bring a big ego to the garden design. He made it about us, not him”**

**SARAH FITZGERALD, OWNER**



## GARDEN NEWS

# outdoor living

Enjoy precious sunny days with these garden style essentials EDITED BY JOSEPH GARDNER & MATILDA DUFFECY



## BUILT IN

Combining flowerbeds and bench seating is the perfect way to maximise your outdoor area and get it party ready, as in this space by Harrison's Landscaping, [harrisonslandscaping.com.au](http://harrisonslandscaping.com.au).



**OUTER BLISS** Get comfy with the 'Duffel' ottoman, NZD\$1750, Tim Webber Design, [timwebberdesign.com](http://timwebberdesign.com).



## new weave

Add a tactile element in a warm natural tone to your courtyard or garden with the Maiori 'Mica' woven armchair, \$690. Head to [obodo.com.au](http://obodo.com.au) for details.

## propped up

The 'Lazy Season' pot comes with a bronze prop to change the angle to best catch the sun. It's a combined effort from The Fortynine Studio and The Planthunter, \$290. For more info, visit [thefortynine.com.au](http://thefortynine.com.au).



## 3 GREAT FINDS

**Kontextür 'X3' watering can** by Paul Loebach, \$120, Mr Kitly, [mrkitly.com.au](http://mrkitly.com.au).



**Anderssen & Voll 'Min' watering can**, CAD\$410, Mjolk, [mjolk.ca](http://mjolk.ca).



**Kristina Stark 'Botan' watering can**, \$96, Top3 By Design, [top3.com.au](http://top3.com.au).



## Q+A WITH



**Rob Waddell**  
Landscape designer,  
Waddell Landscapes  
What should a garden offer?

It should be structured, balanced and incorporate both hard and soft elements. A garden should complement the house and region, and should reflect a homeowner's personality and lifestyle, whether it's through a subtle feature or key design element.

**What do you need to consider in planning a small-space garden?** Practical space versus aesthetic space: the first step is to decide how much usable area is required for dining, lounging or entertaining. Once this has been established, the plant life and features can be added around it. These elements must work in harmony. When choosing plants, make sure to check the size of mature varieties – they might work well as young plants, but an area can quickly feel cramped if the garden becomes overgrown. Then prioritise your elements – pick a few favourite ingredients to work in. A common trap is to get carried away and try to squash in every idea – sometimes less is more.

Visit [waddelllandscapes.com.au](http://waddelllandscapes.com.au) for more info.



For inspiring outdoor living ideas, visit [insideout.com.au/renovations/outdoors-pool](http://insideout.com.au/renovations/outdoors-pool).



# collector's edition 150<sup>TH</sup> ISSUE



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# *friday* night in



Want a fun alternative to a night on the town? Invite some friends to your place for an end-of-week catch-up with these easy recipes and tabletop ideas

STYLING **JOSEPH GARDNER** FOOD STYLING **DAVID MORGAN** PHOTOGRAPHY **JEREMY SIMONS**







**Left:** 'Basic' salt and pepper vessel, \$75/pair, Marble Basics. Mr & Mrs White coasters, \$50/set of 6, Catapult Design. 'Etchings' plate, \$34, Marmoset Found. Cutipol 'Moon' cutlery, \$650/set of 8, Macleay On Manning. Society Limonta 'Tab' napkin, \$245/set of 6, Ondene. Nesting bowl, \$55, Koskela. 'The White Series' plates, POA, Slip Ceramics. Menu 'Wire' bowl, \$85, Top3 By Design.

**Right:** 'The White Series' bowl and plates, POA, Slip Ceramics. Society Limonta 'Tab' napkin, \$245/set of 6, Ondene. Nesting bowls, \$55 each, Koskela. 'Etchings' plates, \$34 each, Marmoset Found. 'Basic' salt and pepper vessels, \$75/pair, Marble Basics. Cutipol 'Moon' cutlery, \$650/set of 8, Macleay On Manning. Normann Copenhagen whiskey glasses, \$75/pair, BYMR. Menu 'Vase Vase' vase, \$125, and Noritake 'IVV Speedy' carafe, \$125, Eighteen-Ten. 'Etchings' platter, \$74, Marmoset Found. 'Jana' marble platter, \$89.95, Country Road. Society Limonta 'Chambray' napkin, \$40, Ondene. Studio Expormim 'Trio' coffee table, \$2390.30, Ke-Zu. 'Jelani' cushions (also, far right), \$59.95 each, Kas Australia. 'Aesa' cushion, \$49.95, and 'Tomek' cushion, \$79.95, Country Road. 'Sierra Weave' rug, from \$705, Armadillo&Co. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 148







Americano rosso

**Above:** Normann Copenhagen whiskey glasses, \$75/pair, BYMR. Mr & Mrs White coasters, \$50/set of 6, Catapult Design. Cutipol 'Moon' cutlery, \$650/set of 8, Macleay On Manning. 'Jana' marble platter, \$89.95, Country Road. Noritake 'IVV Speedy' carafe, \$125, Eighteen Ten.

**Opposite:** 'Thick Check' cake dish, \$33, Koskela. Japanese porcelain butter/pâté knife, \$31, and vintage mother of pearl cocktail forks, \$12 each, The Bay Tree. 'Etchings' plate, \$34, Marmoset Found. 'Big Basic' round tray, \$270, Marble Basics. 'Thick Check' biscuit dish, \$20, and 'Pleated' dish, \$40, Koskela. Indigo Love 'Dippo' breadboard, \$110, Few And Far. Society Limonta 'Chambray' napkin, \$40, Ondene. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 148

## americano rosso

**SERVES** 1

**PREPARATION TIME** 5 minutes

30ml Campari  
30ml red vermouth  
Chilled soda water, to serve  
Lemon slices, to serve  
Orange slices, to serve  
Ice, to serve (optional)

Combine the Campari and vermouth in a serving tumbler. Top with soda water. Add lemon and orange. Serve with ice. Tip: Combine in a jug for a more communal feel.

## create the perfect antipasto platter

Food stylist David Morgan shares his pick of nibbles to put together for your guests

**cheese** We have plated up Fromage Chource here, but any soft cheese – such as brie or camembert – is fine. The trick is finding one that is ripe and ready to serve – when you gently squeeze the rind, the cheese should have a little give and shouldn't be too hard. Serving at room temperature makes the most of the cheese's flavour.

**olives** I think they should be a part of every antipasto platter, stimulating your tastebuds. And, of course, they're great with cocktails and wine. Go for many varieties so you get the best of their different flavours and textures.

**cured meats** A combination of your favourite types, but no more than three or you have a meat lover's mess! Not a good look. We went with prosciutto, mild sopressa salami and pancetta.

**crispbread** Essential for any antipasto platter. Keep it dry and crisp, so your guests don't get full before the main event.

**olive tapenade** Buying local is key! Whatever your local farmers' market or deli is selling will be best for you.

**carrot pickle** Pickles of any type are great, especially if you have cured meats. They cut through the salty flavours and again set you up for more to come. Your local deli should have options to add to your platter.





“Olives should be a part of every antipasto platter, stimulating your tastebuds. And they’re great with cocktails”

DAVID MORGAN, FOOD STYLIST

Antipasto platter





Prawn salad

## prawn salad

**SERVES** 4

**PREPARATION TIME** 25 minutes

3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil  
 1 tbsp red wine vinegar  
 2 tsp lemon juice  
 1 tsp grain mustard  
 2 tbsp mint leaves, finely chopped  
 2 tbsp dill leaves, finely chopped  
 600g cooked medium king prawns, peeled (tails intact), deveined  
 2 sticks celery, thinly sliced  
 3 cups baby spinach leaves  
 3 medium heirloom tomatoes, sliced  
 1 avocado, peeled, sliced  
 70g snow peas, trimmed, thinly sliced  
 ½ small red onion, thinly sliced  
 Lemon wedges, to serve

1. Combine olive oil, vinegar, lemon juice, mustard and herbs in a bowl.
2. Combine prawns, celery, spinach, tomatoes, avocado, snow peas and onion in a large bowl. Toss gently to combine. Pour dressing over salad and serve with lemon wedges.

## lemon delicious

**SERVES** 4

**PREPARATION TIME** 20 minutes **COOKING TIME** 40 minutes


100g unsalted butter, plus extra to grease  
 1 cup caster sugar  
 1 tsp vanilla extract  
 Grated zest of 2 large lemons, plus juice of 3 large lemons  
 4 eggs, separated  
 ½ cup self-raising flour  
 2 cups milk  
 Icing sugar, to dust  
 Blueberry compote, to serve

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease 4 x 250ml baking dishes.
2. Place the butter, caster sugar, vanilla and lemon zest in an electric mixer, and beat until thick and pale. Add the egg yolks, one at a time, beating well after each addition.
3. Fold in half the flour, then fold in the milk. Fold in the remaining flour, then fold in the lemon juice – don't worry if the mixture looks curdled at this stage. Set aside.
4. Beat the eggwhites in a clean bowl until stiff peaks form. Gently fold into the lemon mixture, then pour into prepared dishes.
5. Place the dishes in a large roasting pan and add boiling water so it comes halfway up the sides. Bake for 25 minutes until golden and set on top. Dust with icing sugar and serve with blueberry compote.

**Left:** Cutipol 'Moon' cutlery, \$650/set of 8, Macleay On Manning. Normann Copenhagen whiskey glasses, \$75/pair, BYMR. 'Basic' salt and pepper vessels, \$75/pair, Marble Basics. Mr & Mrs White coaster, \$50/set of 6, Catapult Design. 'Etchings' plates, \$34 each, and platter, \$74, Marmoset Found. Ferm Living brass salad servers, \$69/pair, Designstuff.

**Opposite:** 'Basix' napkin, \$22, Hale Mercantile Co. 'Rice' bowls, \$37 each, Mud Australia. 'The White Series' plate in Tidal, \$260, Slip Ceramics. Eucalypt two-tone spoons, \$24.95 each, The Bay Tree. Mr & Mrs White coasters, \$50/set of 6, as before. Studio Enti 'Porcelain Dusk' bowl, \$42, Catapult Design. Society Limonta 'Chambray' napkin, \$40, Ondene. Studio Expormim 'Trio' coffee table, \$2390.30, Ke-Zu. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 148



A top-down view of three white ceramic bowls filled with a pale yellow lemon pudding. Each bowl is topped with a generous amount of fresh blueberries and a drizzle of dark purple berry sauce. The bowls are arranged on a large, oval-shaped green ceramic tray with a subtle, multi-toned pattern. A light blue cloth napkin is tucked under the bowls, and a white ceramic spoon rests on the tray. The entire scene is set on a light-colored wooden surface.

Lemon delicious

These puddings are a moreish treat at the end of the evening. Serve this dessert in subtle-toned ceramic bowls for easy elegance

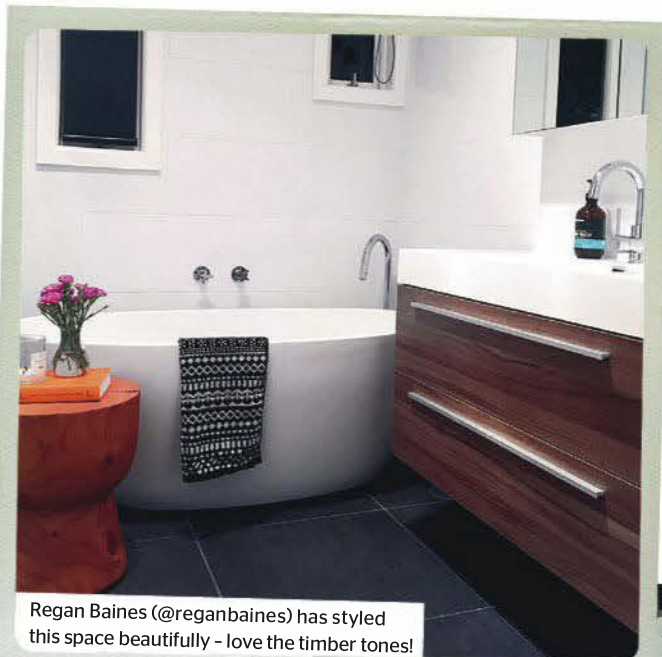


# bathroom bliss

Here are just a couple of our favourite entries in the **#sharemystylebathroom** category



Black tapware gives Lisa Quinn-Schofield's (@featherhorse\_) bathroom a bold look.



Regan Baines (@reganbaines) has styled this space beautifully - love the timber tones!



A masterful selection of surfaces and details gives Nicola's bathroom a feeling of luxury.



A classic stripe is the perfect finishing touch to this refined space by Kate Jansen (@katkaz8).

*Congratulations to our **#sharemystylebathroom** category winner!*

Nicola Phelan (@nicandco stylist) has won a Kartell by Laufen accessories set, valued at \$1997, thanks to Reece



# sharemystyle

enter via



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to tag us  
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## how to enter



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## GO EAST

Luchetti Krelle's elegant design of Kiyomi, at Gold Coast's Jupiters Hotel & Casino, includes Japanese tiles hand-picked with head chef Chase Kojima and a Houxo Que artwork. Call 1800 074 344.

### FOOD NEWS

# wine & dine

Designer bars and restaurants, insider wine advice and hot new products WORDS LEE TRAN LAM



## fireside dining

The fireplace at Bacaro the new wine bar inside Canberra's Italian & Sons seems like a pretty good spot to cosy up this winter. Visit 7 Lonsdale St, Braddon.

**SOUPED UP** Din Tai Fung opens in Melbourne - with its biggest venue yet. Get your dumpling fix at Emporium Melbourne, [emporiummelbourne.com.au](http://emporiummelbourne.com.au).



**Benu**, \$75, Phaidon, [au.phaidon.com](http://au.phaidon.com).

**Sepia**, \$75, Murdoch Books/Allen & Unwin, [allenandunwin.com](http://allenandunwin.com).



**Spice I Am**, \$39.99, Penguin Books, [penguin.com.au](http://penguin.com.au).

3 GREAT FINDS

## Q+A WITH...



## Clayton Wells Head chef, Automata

Tell us about Automata's look.

It's designed by Matt Machine. The

room has a six-metre high ceiling and original arched windows, so to utilise the space, we'll be putting in a mezzanine floor. There will also be some really interesting bar stool and lighting pieces, commissioned from The Rag And Bone Man in London.

**You had to extract a 2.5-tonne safe from the site! Has that been the hardest thing you've had to deal with so far?** It certainly was a surprise - we had to remove part of the wall to get it out and lift it out with a crane. We now have more space for wine and the safe will appear somewhere in the hotel.

**Who are some of your favourite chefs on Instagram?** Bo Bech (@bobech), Rene Redzepi (@reneredzepinoma), Dan Pepperell (@danielperperell), Paul Cunningham (@paulfood) and Mitch Orr (@instakrill). Automata opens soon at The Old Clare Hotel in Sydney, 5 Kensington Street, Chippendale; visit [automata.com.au](http://automata.com.au).

PHOTOGRAPHY: (KIYOMI) MICHAEL WEE, (BESSER) ALANA DIMOU



## outside factors

Besser may be inspired by the outdoor brick, but there's nothing garden variety about this Italian eatery in Sydney. Visit [besseritalian.com.au](http://besseritalian.com.au).



Rejoice - in Sydney, you can get doughnuts delivered to your door. Visit [glazeddoughnuts.com.au](http://glazeddoughnuts.com.au).



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**REECE** Light up your world with the sleek 'Pearl Luce' showerhead from Swiss brand Nikles. The unique showerhead features a white LED light that is powered by a built-in water-powered turbine, meaning no additional power source is required. Using technology to include pockets of air with every drop of water it releases, the showerhead is designed to deliver "a rejuvenating spray that's soft and gentle on the skin". The 'Pearl Luce' showerhead, \$841, is available from Reece. Visit [reece.com.au](http://reece.com.au)



**LIEBHERR** The traditional dark, dusty wine cellar is so last century. The built-in underbench wine cellars from Liebherr have insulated glass, dimmable LED lighting, activated charcoal filters to help maintain fresh air, and can be set to the optimal temperature for wine storage. There are two models - the single-zone wine cellar and the dual-zone version, which features two independent zones so red and white wine can be stored in separate compartments. For more information, visit [andico.com.au](http://andico.com.au)



**TEFAL** If you need to reclaim bench space, the Tefal Cuisine Companion could be your new best friend. Made in France and designed to replace up to 10 appliances, this all-in-one kitchen wonder has five attachments and six automatic functions, allowing it to cut, prepare and cook all types of dishes - from starters to desserts. Simply place the ingredients in the bowl and select the program on the touchpad display. It also comes with the *1 Million Menus* cookbook. For details, visit [cuisinecompanion.com.au](http://cuisinecompanion.com.au)



**ETSY** Submissions are now open for the second annual Etsy Design Awards. The awards, which celebrate the people who make etsy.com a destination for great design, are open to Etsy stall holders in Australia and New Zealand. Prizes include a mention in the October issue of *Inside Out* and a trip to New York. There's still time to open your Etsy shop and be eligible to enter the competition but be quick, entries close July 13, 2015. For full terms and conditions and to enter, visit [etsydesignawards.com/au](http://etsydesignawards.com/au)



# stockists

Here are all the numbers and websites you need to get shopping! Don't be misled by suppliers listing Sydney or Melbourne phone numbers – they are often head offices or distributors who can find a retailer in your area

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## d-f

**Des Enfantsillages** desenfantillages.com. **Designstuff** (03) 9592 2960, designstuff.com.au. **Digs** digsshowroom.com. **Domayne** domayneonline.com.au. **eBay** ebay.com.au. **Eighteen Ten** (02) 9362 4890. **Famille Summerbelle** famillesummerbelle.com. **Few And Far** (02) 4441 8244, fewandfar.com.au. **Freedom** 1300 135 588, freedom.com.au.

## g-i

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**Lazybones** (02) 6629 1622, lazybones.com.au. **Lightly** (03) 9417 2440, lightly.com.au. **Little Pie Street** littlepiestreet.com.au.

## m-o

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## p-z

**Paco Jaanson** 1800 006 260, pacojaanson.com.au. **Phillip Withers Landscape Design** phillipwithers.com. **Sack Me!** sackme.com.au. **Slip Ceramics** 0412 513 315, jeremysimons.com.au/slipceramics-gallery. **Smeg** (02) 8667 4888, smeg.com.au. **Spence & Lyda**, spenceandlyda.com.au. **Studio Mint** studiomint.com.au. **The Bay Tree** (02) 9328



Turn to page 86 for more on this smart Tasmanian cottage.

1101, thebaytree.com.au. **The Hat Store** thehatstore.com.au. **These Walls** thesewalls.com.au. **Top3 By Design** 1300 867 333, top3.com.au. **Vola** vola.com.

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# NEXT MONTH

## in our August issue

Oh how we love a white home - but is it family friendly? Next issue, we'll show you lots of different ways to live with white, from adding texture, to simply using it as a base.



family homes



decorating ideas



entertaining



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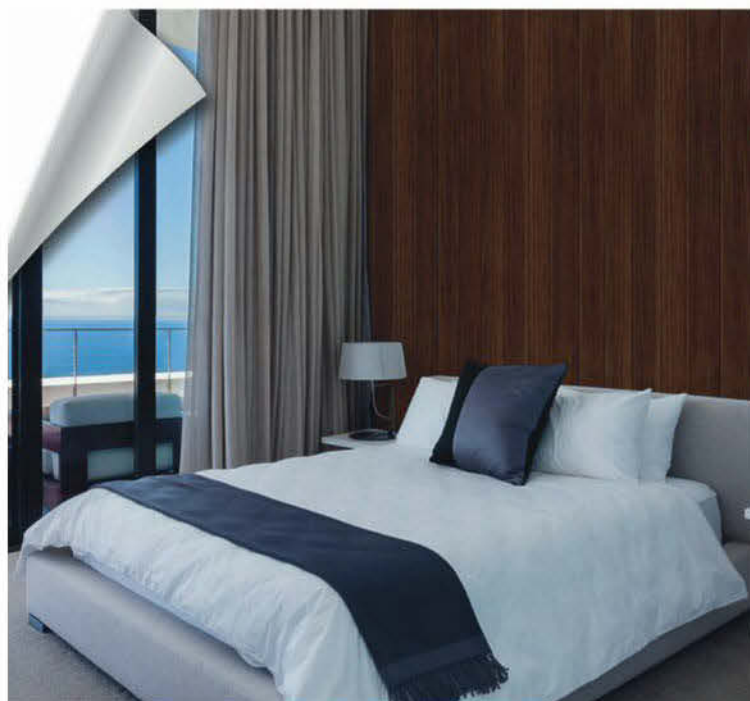
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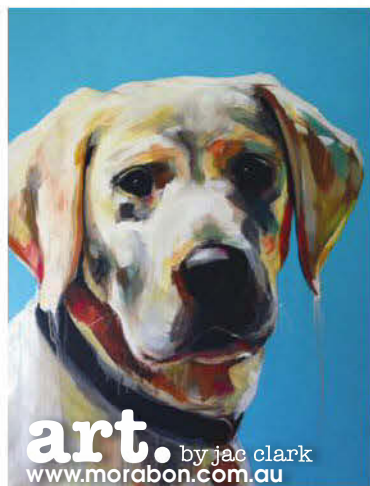
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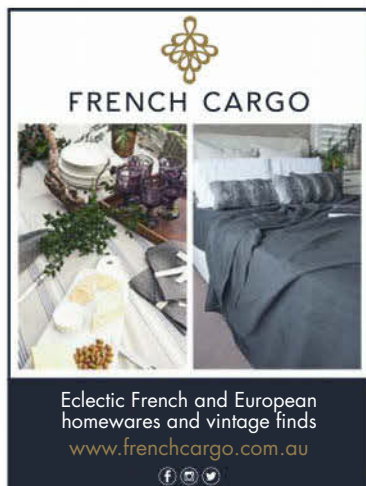
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## Ask Megsy

Our Agony Aunt Meg Mason dishes out somewhat questionable style and decorating advice to would-be DIY renovators

***I'm about to kick off a reno, but need to shave \$10,000 off my budget. I was going to spread the cuts over a few different areas, but now I'm wondering if I should save it in one hit by doing without an architect.***

*Jonathan, Marrickville, NSW*

**W**ell, as someone who only yesterday made a second cup of tea from the one bag, I applaud your efforts at economy. And revising the budget before you've torn off the back of your house only to come up "insufficient funds" for anything more than a large tarp and handful of off-brand Xanax is the sort of uncommon savvy that makes me wonder if there's a Mrs Jonathan, and whether or not we should have drinks later. (Somewhere with parking and I don't do Spanx.)

But then, no sooner have I put on lippy, you suggest giving a properly qualified architect the swerve and banging out a few sketches yourself, and I'm left sitting here regretting a wasted smear of Revlon Rum Raisin.

Here is the rule of thumb, Jonathan, for telling when an "enterprising DIY spirit" has crossed over into "something requiring expert care in a closed facility". Although you're sure you possess the requisite skills for doing it yourself, consider how many other people have asked you to waz them up a bit of architecture?

How many of your sensible budget-conscious friends with a reno on the go have thought, "Do you know what? I'm pretty sure Jonathan's got a pen – let's ask him to spec out our 16-foot excavation and juxtapose a few vernacular fenestrations against the borrowed landscape while he's at it."

Darling, nobody. I say this kindly, and as someone who blows minds at karaoke, and yet finds herself asked to headline at exactly no Glastonburys or family weddings. The real thing must be harder than it looks.

Architecture is a six-year degree, the second longest after medicine and a part-time BA with a constantly changing major. Instinct says there's more to it than learning that brilliant all-caps handwriting and a module on "choosing the right statement optical". There could well be maths in it, Jonathan, or measuring with rulers that come in special tins.



So let's go with option A, and make a series of less painful cuts here and there. Doors with handles on just one side and a staircase that only takes you two-thirds of the way upstairs might be irritating, but these small economies are preferable to having the cantilevered balcony you drew up on the back of a Coles docket collapsing beneath you – and forcing you to dabble in a bit of doctoring.

***I'm cash poor after a recent break-up and although I'd like to get rid of all our shared furniture and start fresh, my budget won't allow it. Will the things we bought together ever stop reminding me of my ex?***

*Ali, Elwood, Vic*

Business idea! An online exchange for the recently heartbroken to trade furniture freighted with painful memories, with another heartbroken soul of similar taste. We're going to need \$50k at the front end and a logo that's eye-catching through a film of tears.



### **revive the... food dehydrator** A forgotten *objet* ripe for resurgence

Like the juicer of our time, the food dehydrator helpfully occupied the entire bench and let us spend entire weekends producing a foodstuff readily available at the shops. And after just 400 banana chips and spongy apple rings, you were close to breaking even.

**Stay tuned for more of Meg's invaluable renovating tips in our next issue.**



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